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TITLE: <BE BETTER THAN UESUGI KAZUYA FOR ME>

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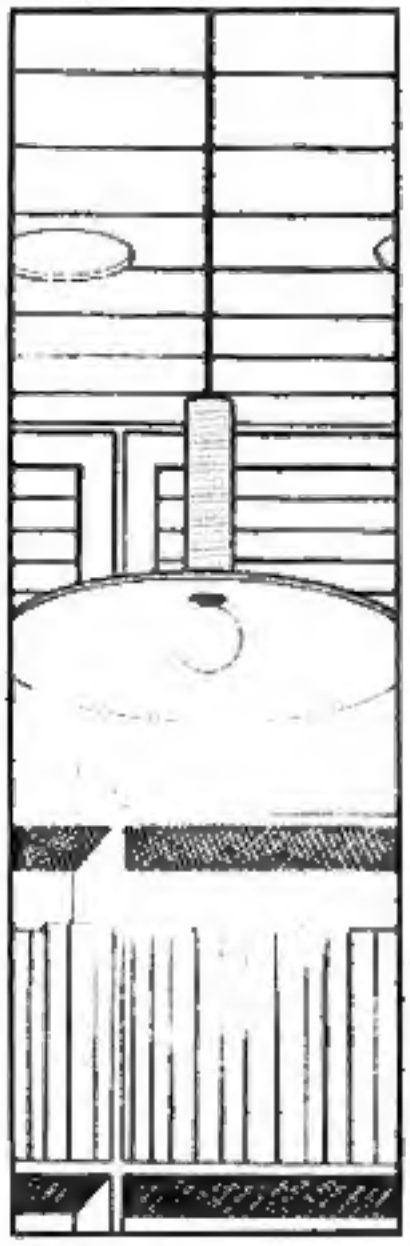
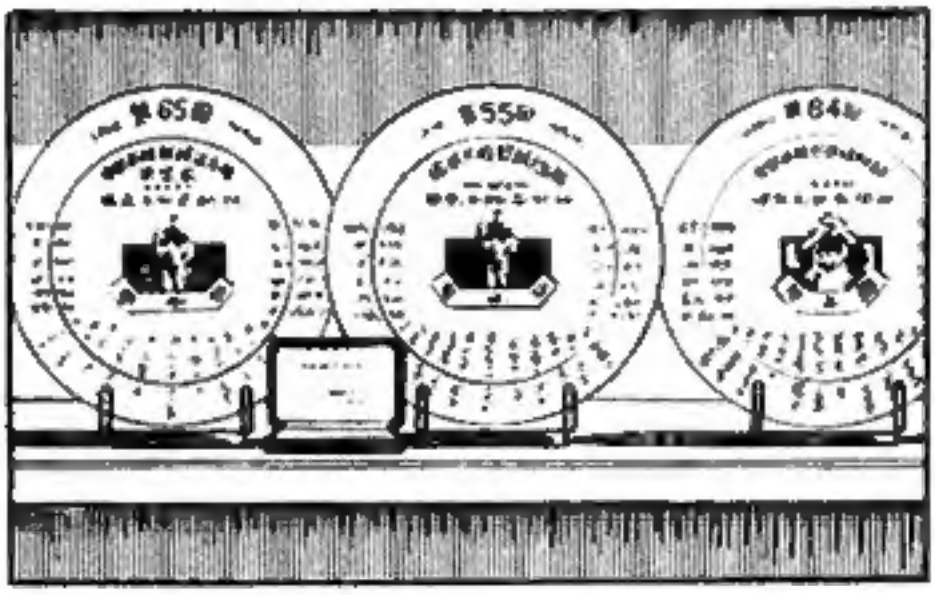




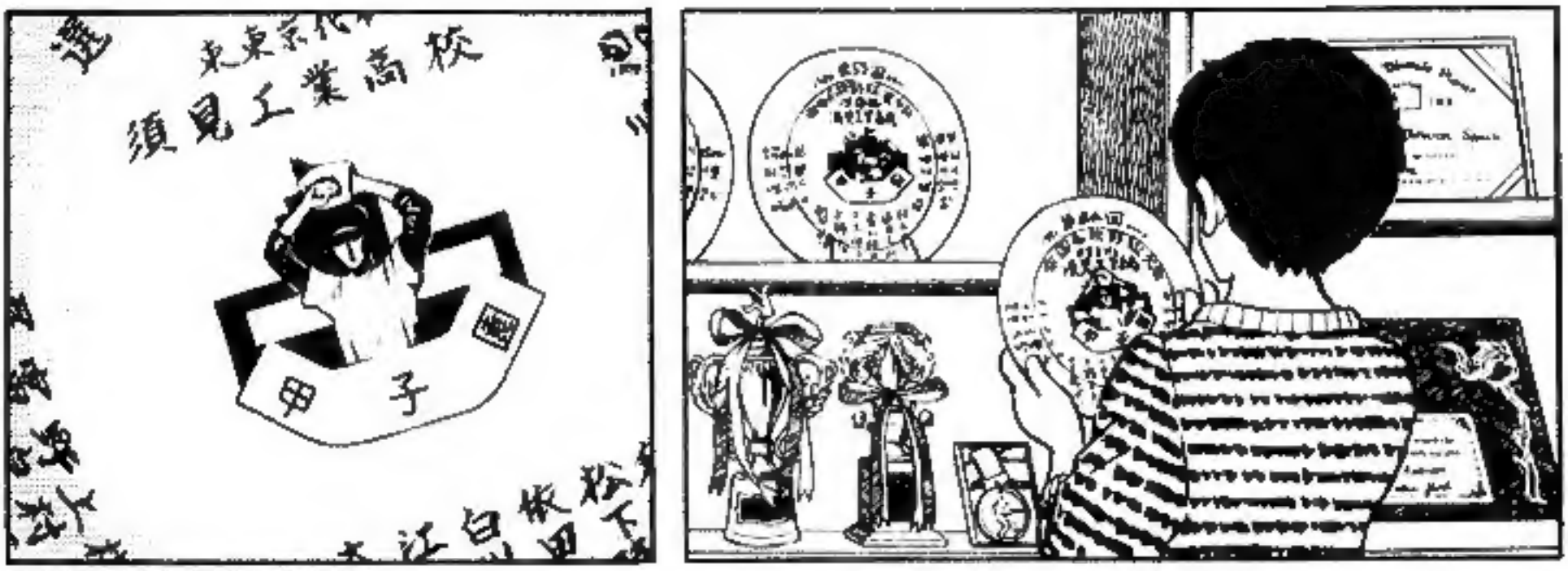


PLATE: <SUMI TECH: KOUSHIEN>

PLATE: <KOUSHIEN>

SCOREBOARD: <SAIJOU>

西条	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0			
明青	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			

SCOREBOARD: <MEISEI>

MY RE-
GARDS.

'CAUSE I HAVE
MY EYE ON SCORING
FIRST, BY TAKING
MINAMI WITH ME
TO KOUSHIEN...

I WON'T GET IT DIRTY...

I WAS JUST LOOKING AT IT.

AH ...

MM-HM.

CLICK

CLACK

THOSE WOULD BE DECORATING YOUR PLACE.

IF UESUGI KAZUYA WERE STILL ALIVE...

YOU DON'T NEED TO HOLD BACK.

I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO BEAT A GUY WHO'S DEAD.

KOUSHIEN'S A GREAT STAR...

YOU'RE EXTREMELY MODEST, HM?

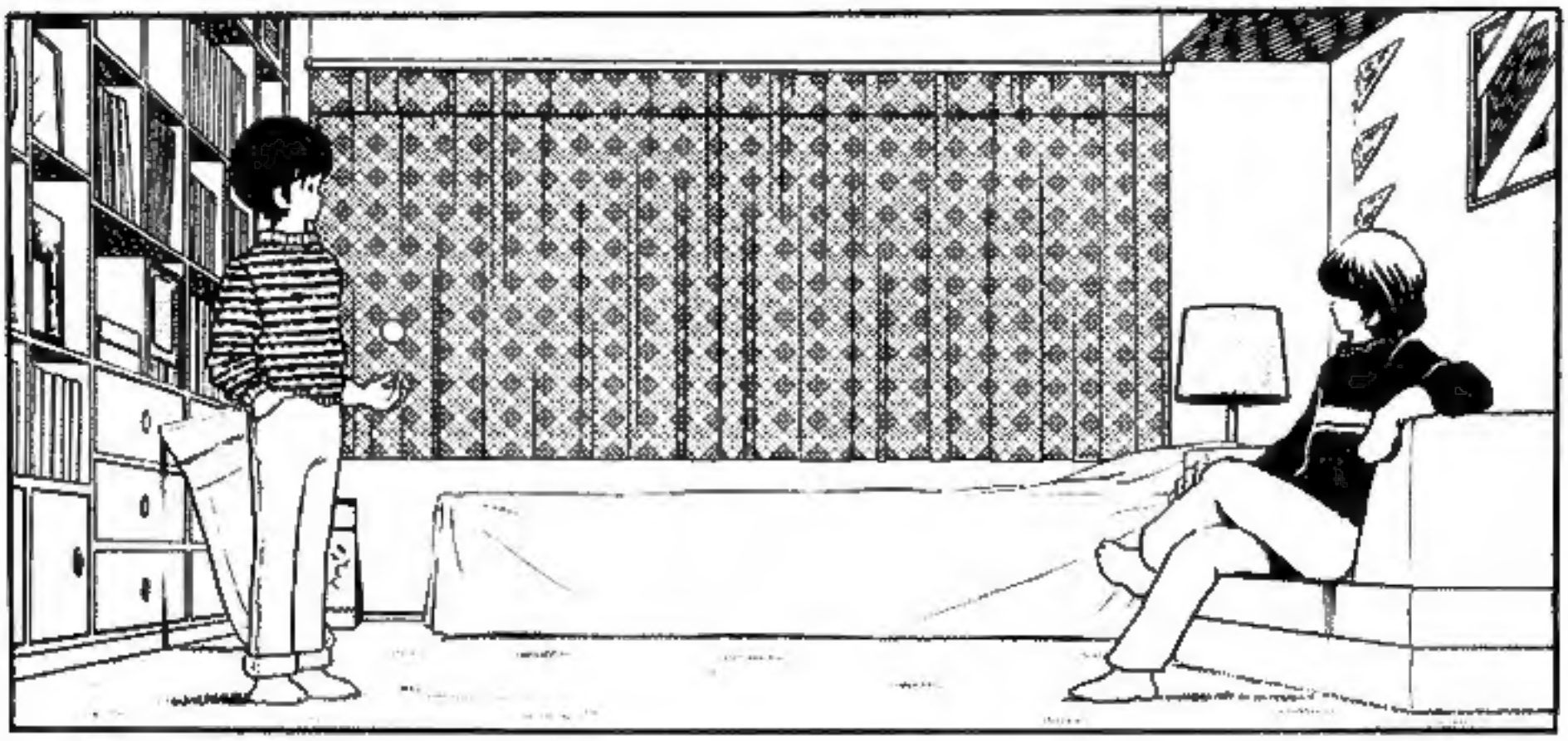
MEOOOW

POW!
OW

NO MATTER HOW AWESOME THE PITCHERS I COMPETED AGAINST AT KOUSHIEN WERE, HE DID NOT FADE AWAY.

EVEN NOW, HE LOOMS UP LARGE WITHIN ME...
AND HE CONTINUES TO CONFRONT ME.

LET ME FACE UESUGI KAZUYA ONCE MORE.



YOU CAN DO IT.

AND SO... THAT'S ...

BE BETTER THAN UESUGI KAZUYA FOR ME.

.....

GURGLE

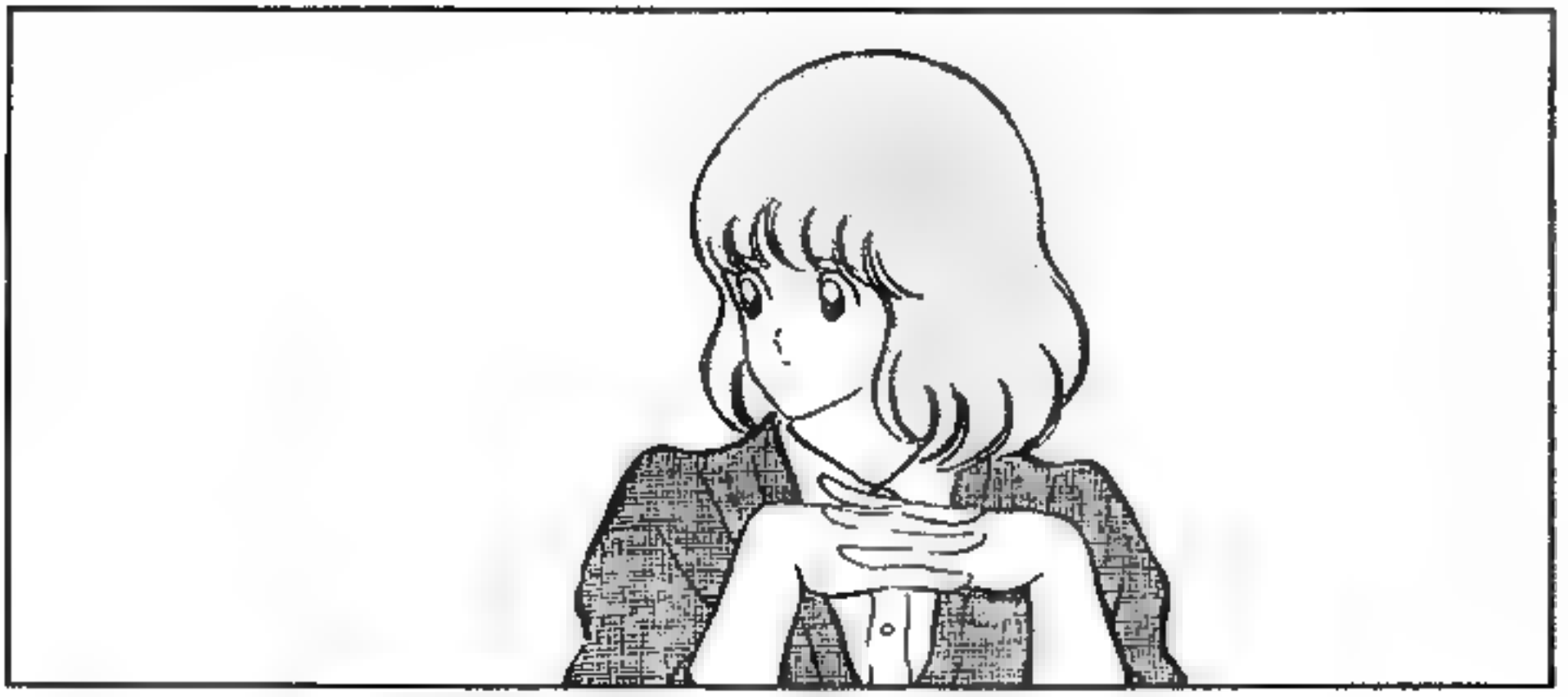
PLEASE!

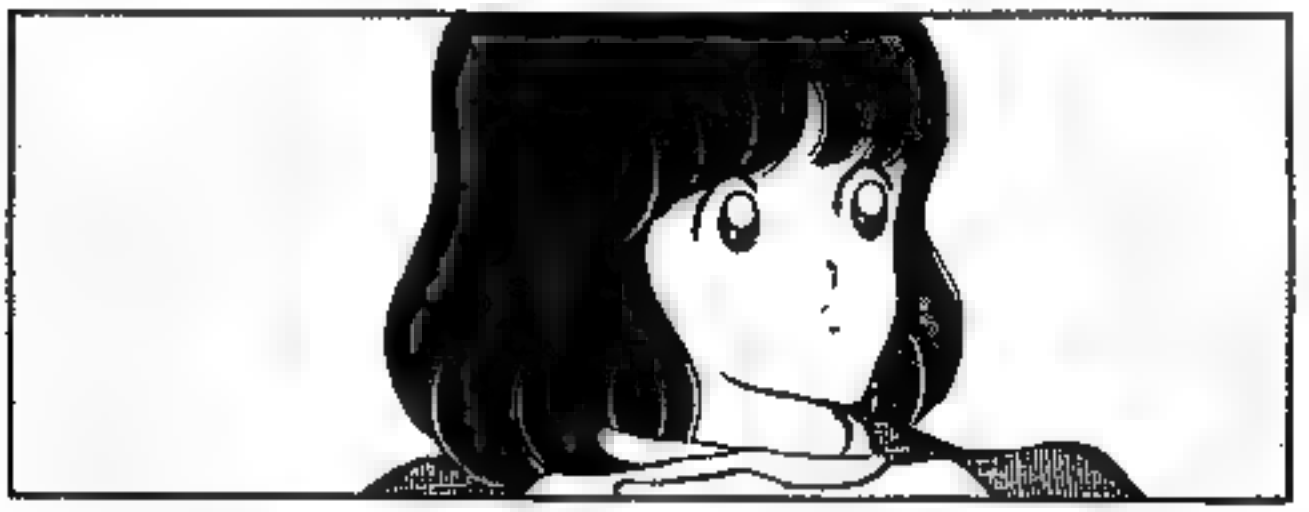
LET'S GO EAT.

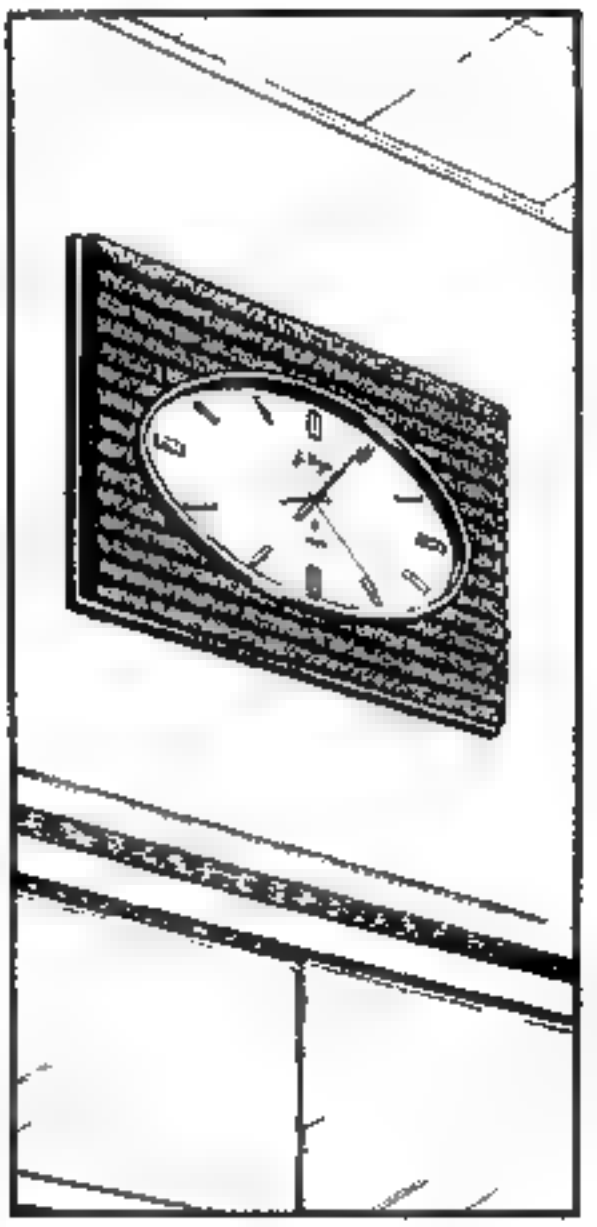
AH, RIGHT.

THANKS.

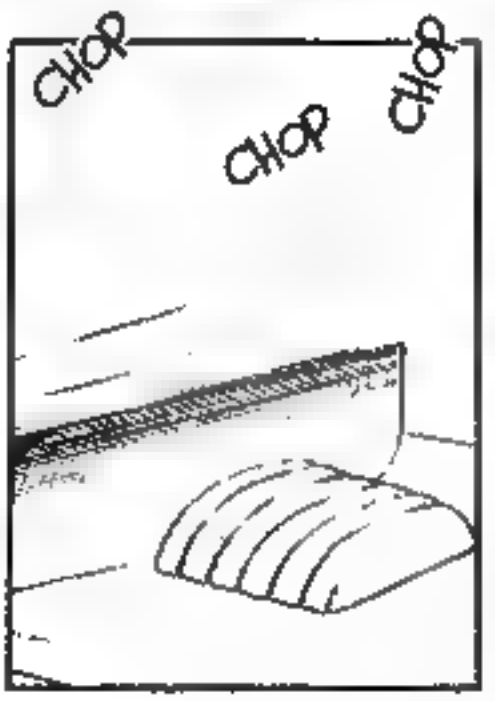
Uesugi

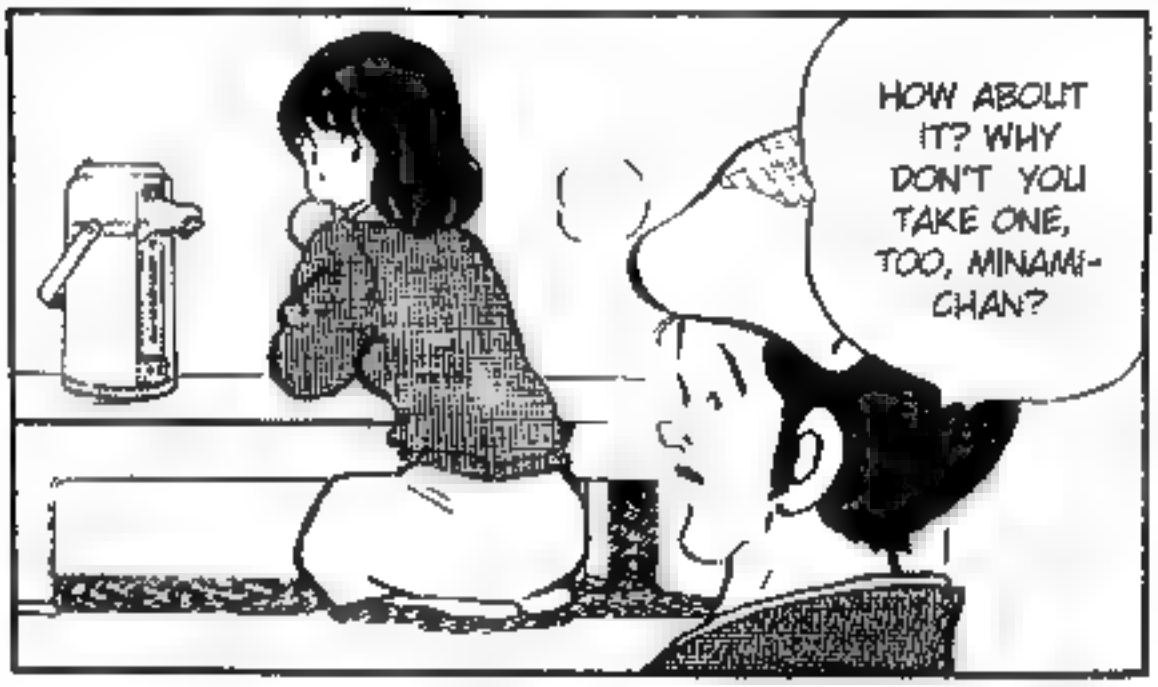


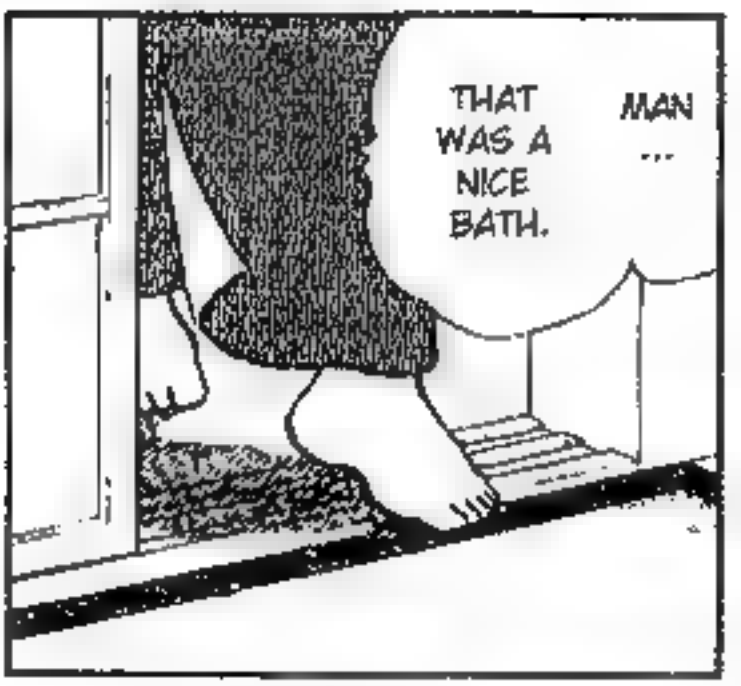




CHOP
CHOP


CHOP
CHOP
CHOP


HOW ABOUT IT? WHY DON'T YOU TAKE ONE, TOO, MINAMI-CHAN?


THAT WAS A NICE BATH.
MAN ...

YEAH..

AH..

HE'S STILL IN UNI-FORM.

HM?

REAL-LY..

I WON-DER WHAT'S HAP-PENED...

OKAY.

KAA-SAN, A BEER.

UH-HUH.

REALLY, I WONDER WHAT HAP-PENED?

.....

SO... WHO ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

THANKS FOR THE DINNER.

YE-E-ES.

YUKA, BRING SOME COFFEE TO MY ROOM.

TWO, ONE FOR UESUGI.

FOR AKIO TO BRING FRIENDS HERE.

HOW UN-USUAL ...

MM.

IN BASE-BALL?

ENEMY?

ONII-CHAN'S ENEMY!

THAT ONE'S A RIVAL!

HE'S NO FRIEND.

HMM.

AND ALSO ...

IN MANY OTHER THINGS

GUB GUB

ARE YOU PUTTING POISON IN HIS COFFEE?

YUKA.

SHOULDN'T YOU RUN HOME?

YOU WERE IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR ROAD WORK, WEREN'T YOU?

SO...

I'LL TAKE YOU HOME ..

YOU WON'T BE DEFEATING ONICHAN.

PRAC-TICING HALF-HEART-EDLY.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND-NESS.

!!"

!!"

YUKA!

WANNA FIGHT?

IT'S DANGER-OUS TO RIDE DOUBLE ON A MOTORBIKE, SO STOP DOING THAT!

IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR LEG IS ALL RIGHT, HM?

BYE.

.....

SFX: GRUMMMBLE ..?

Uesugi

VROOM

IT'S ALL RIGHT, IT'S ALL RIGHT.

I CAN GO IN FROM THE BACK.

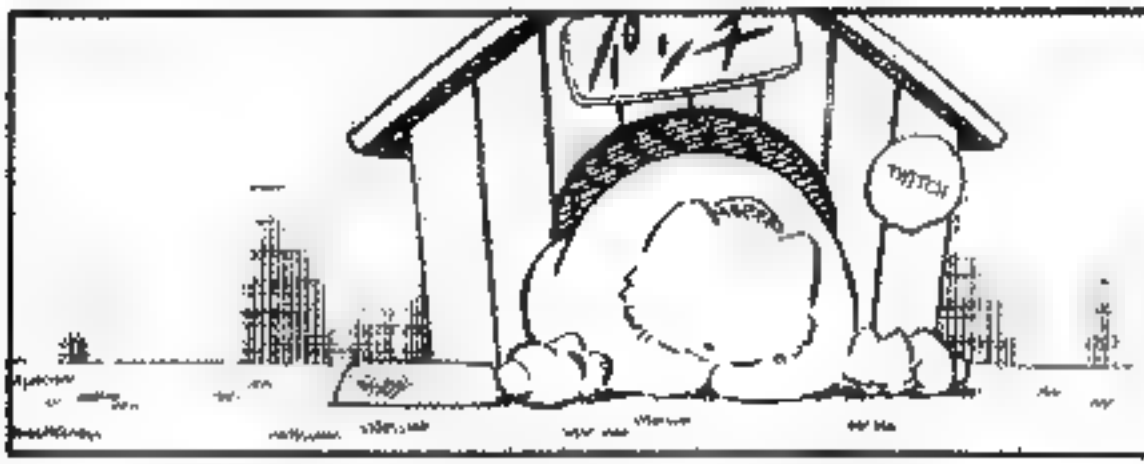
WHAT'LL YOU DO?

SIGN <PUNCH>

THE KEY'S STUCK.

OHH?

SFX. <RATTLE RATTLE>



SFX. <SPLASH>

SFX. <ARF ARF ARF>

QUIET, QUIET.

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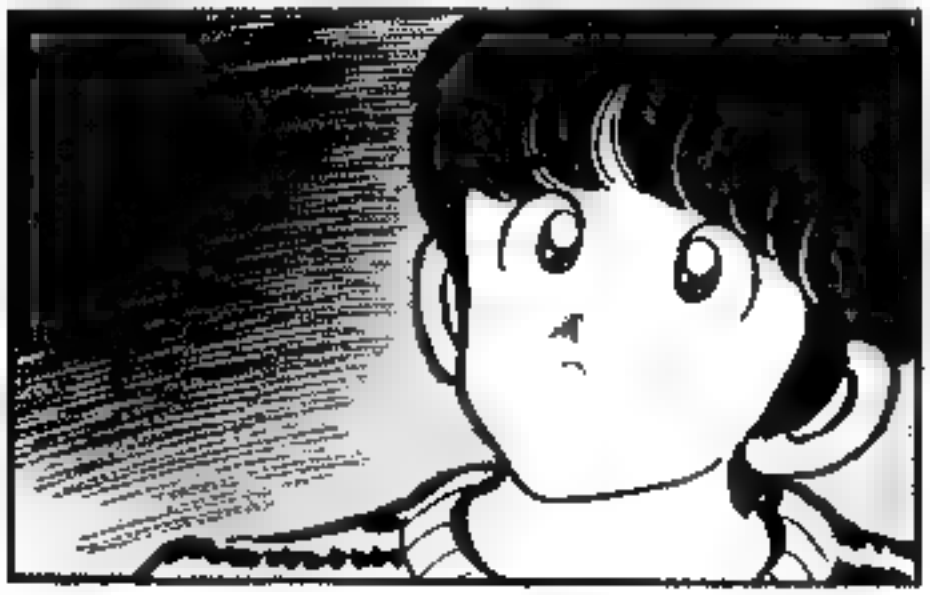

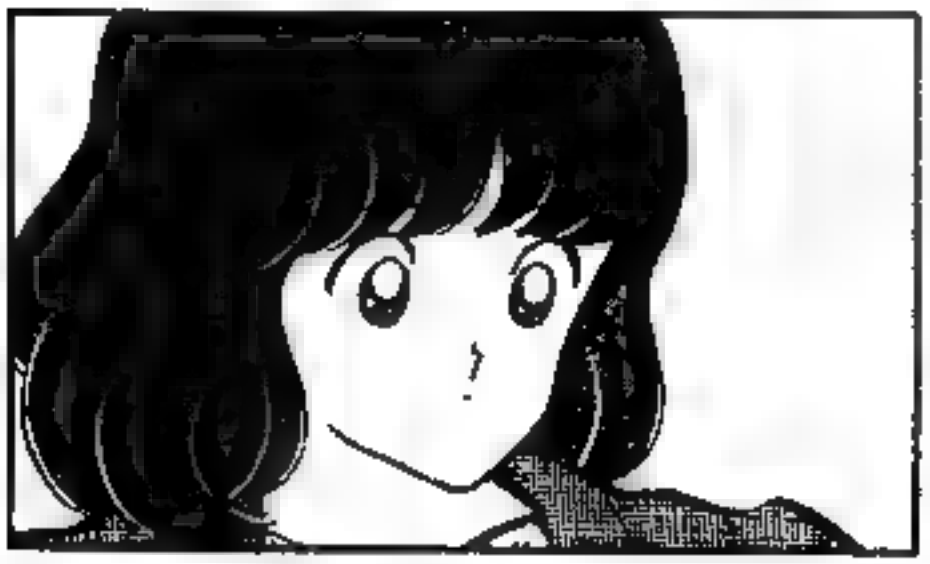

A Great Thing

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WHERE ARE YOU GOING WITH SOMEONE ELSE'S LUNCH!?

2-A

HEY! WAIT!

THE TRADE'S FINAL-IZED.

HERE YOU GO.

HOME-MADE BY TATCHAN.

LOOKS GOOD, RIGHT?

CLACK

* NOTE: <FURIKAKE IS SOMETHING YOU SPRINKLE ONTO RICE. IT USUALLY IS MADE UP OF STUFF LIKE FLAKES OF BONITO (A TYPE OF FISH) OR SHRIMP, SESAME SEEDS, <NORI> (IE, DRIED AND SEASONED SEAWEED).>

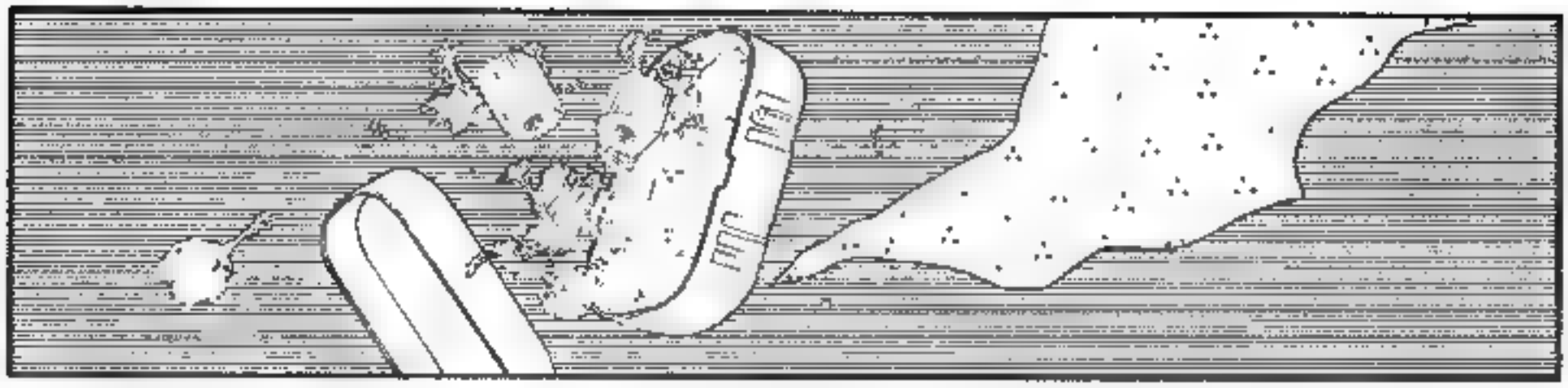
SFX: <WHUMP>

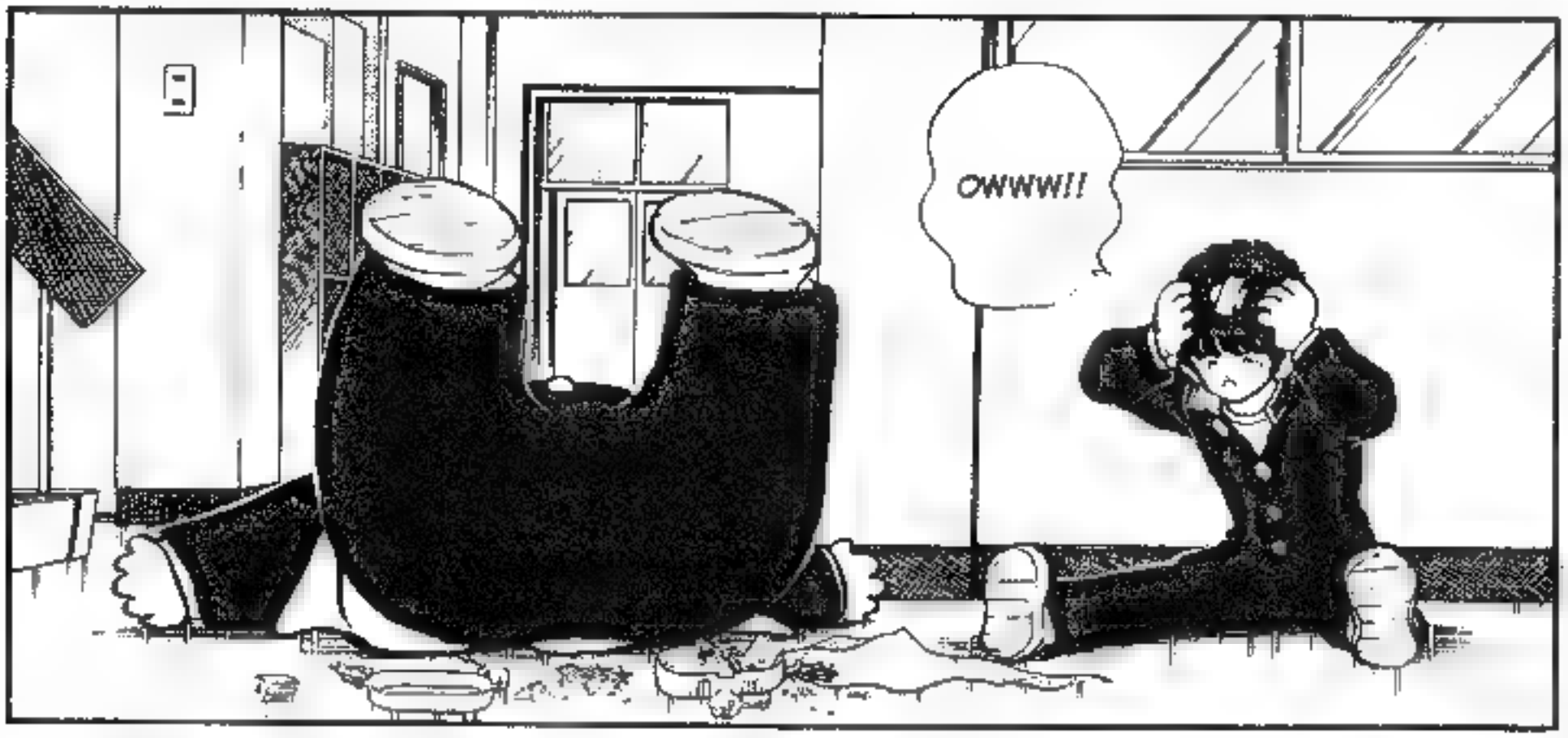
WORK TOGETHER WITH ME TO BUILD UP THE ACE'S STRENGTH.

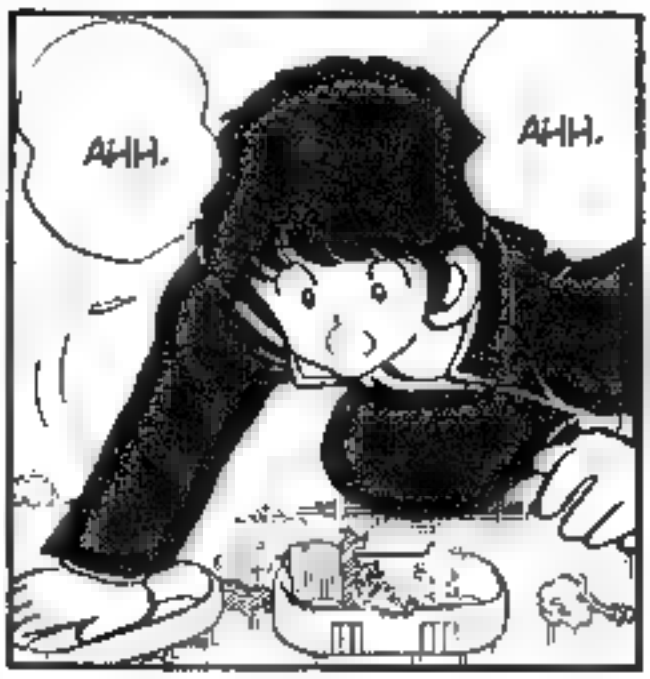
YOU'RE THE MANAGER OF THE BASEBALL TEAM, RIGHT?

WHO'D THINK THAT ABOUT A FURIKAKE* BOX LUNCH LIKE THIS!?

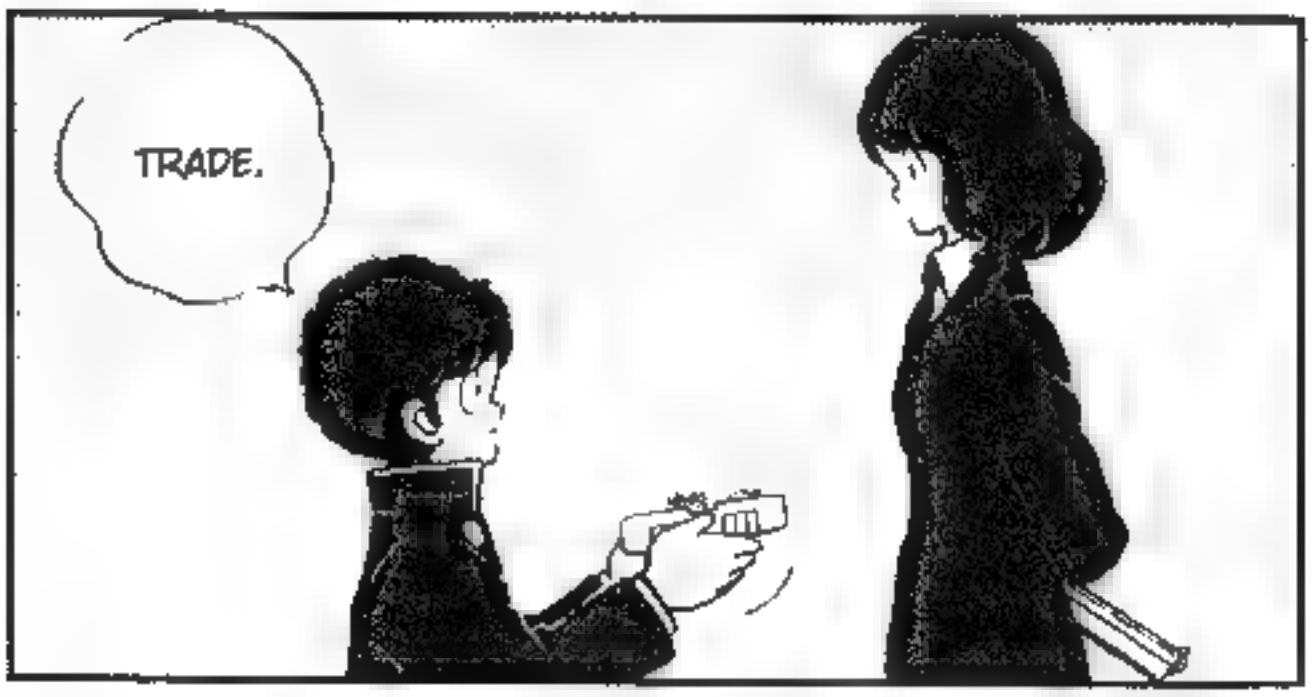
IDIOT!




OWWW!!


AHH.
AHH.

AHH.


TRADE.

OWW.

IDIOT!

IDIOT!

WHY DON'T YOU GIVE ME YOUR LUNCH!?

OF COURSE IT IS!

BAD NEWS, UESUGI!

SHIT...

I'LL EAT IT!

SUMI TECH CHALLENGED US TO A PRACTICE GAME!

SUMI TECH?

CRUNCH

THIS IS A GREAT THING.

SUMI TECH, A SEMIFINALIST AT KOUSHIEN, PERSONALLY NAMED US.

THEY'RE CHALLENGED BY A LOT OF SCHOOLS THAT HOPE TO HAVE A PRACTICE GAME WITH THEM, BUT IT'S NOT EASY FOR THEM TO GET A TURN...

.....

...SO IT MADE HIM MAD.

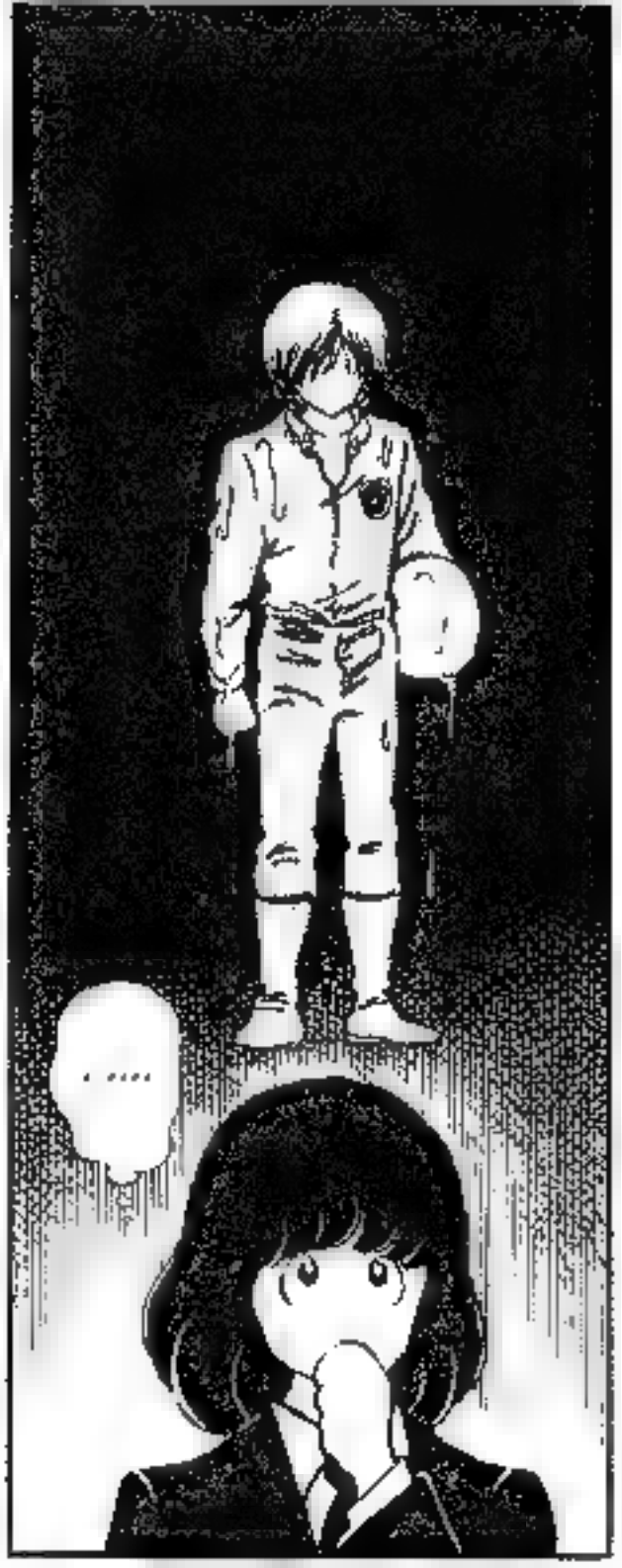
YOU DUMPED WATER ON NITTA...

HUH?

IT'S YOUR FAULT!!

I WAS JOKING.
DUMMY ...

WHAT'LL I DO?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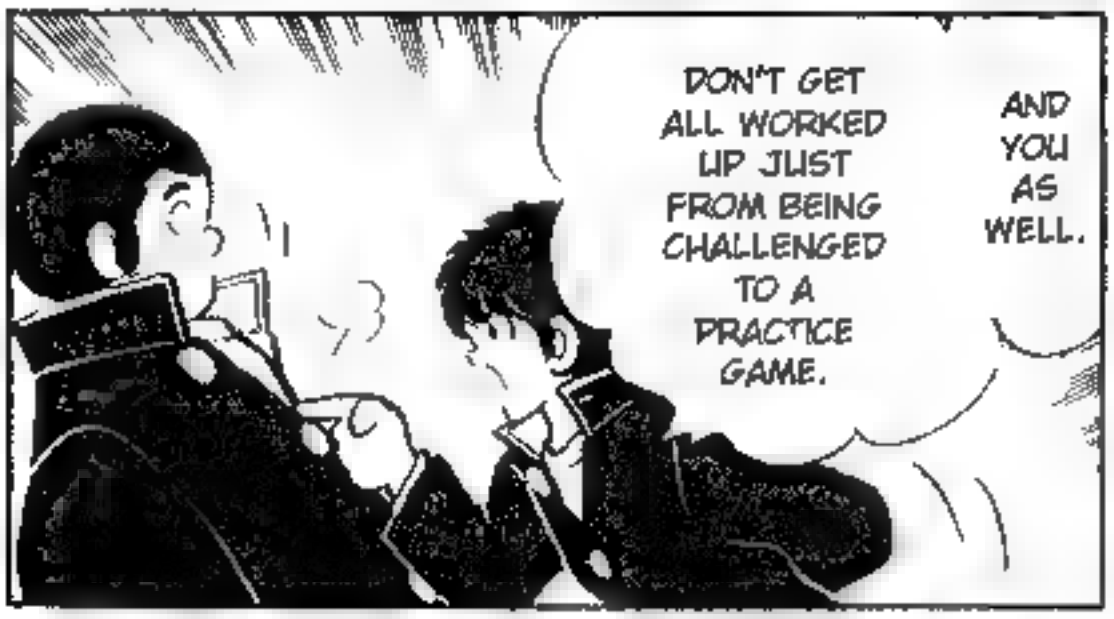
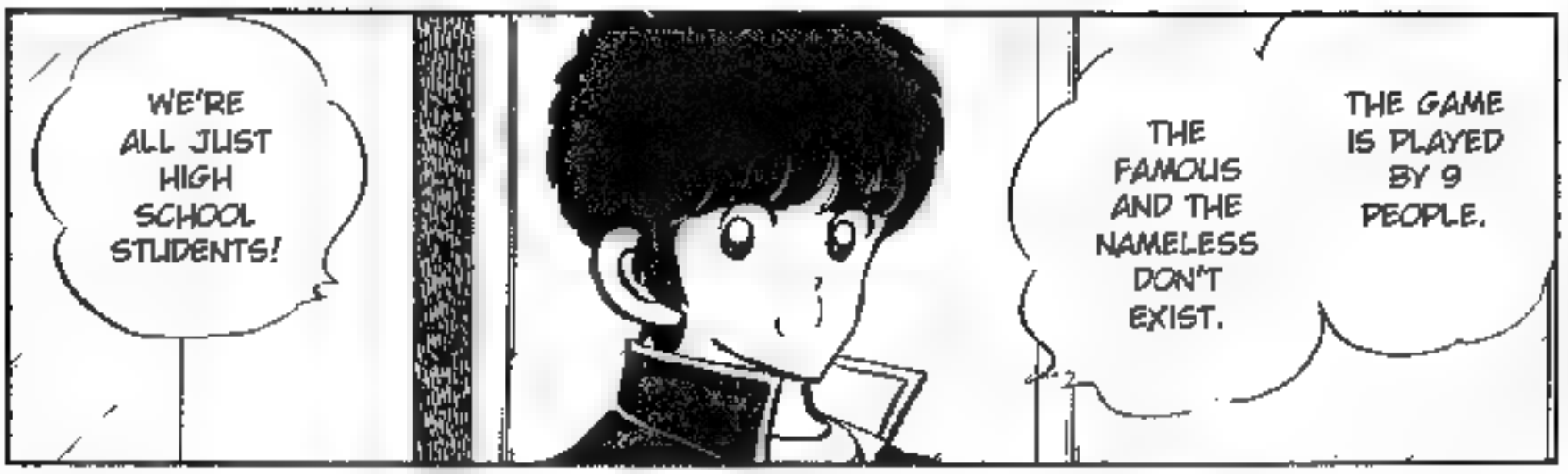
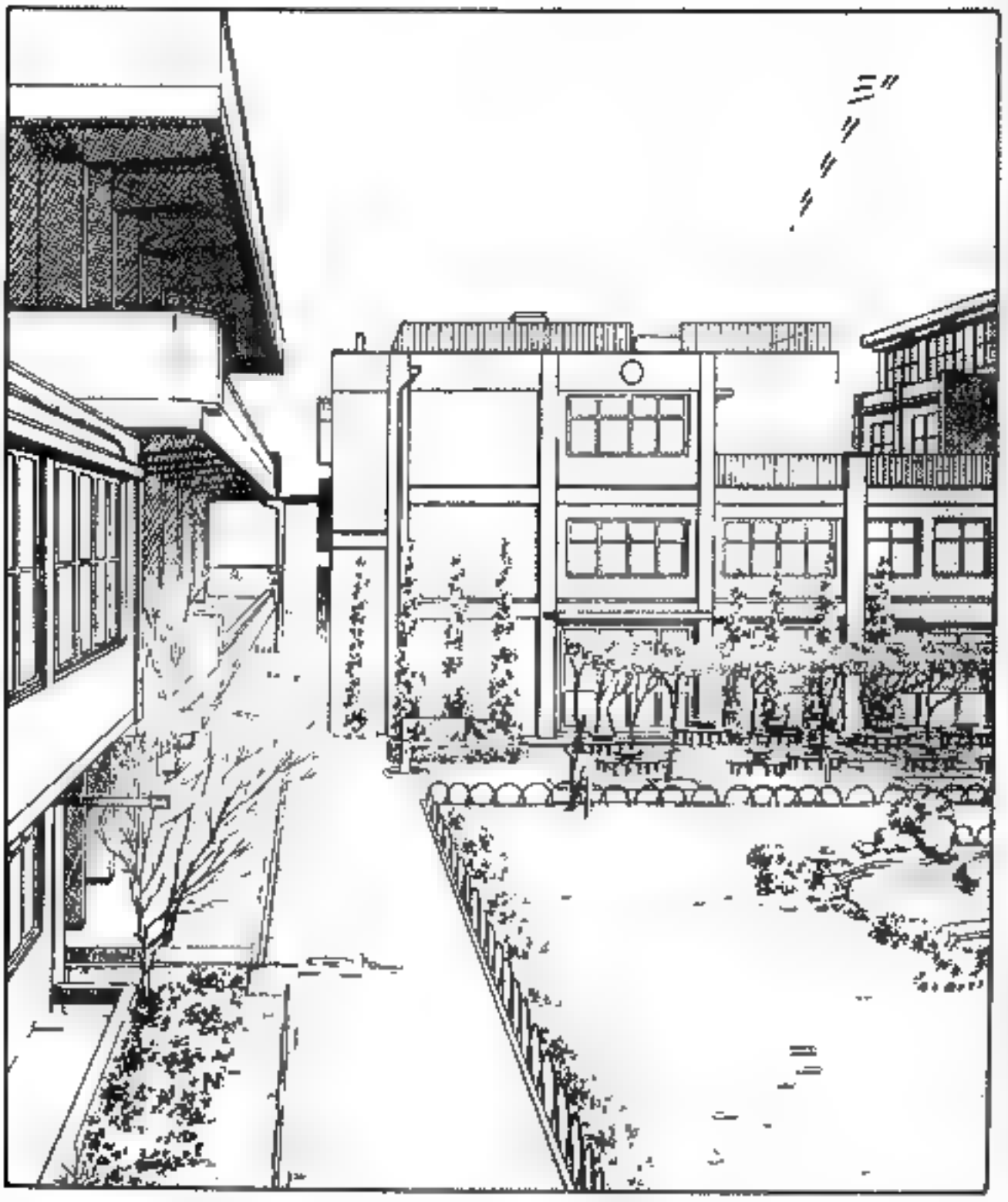
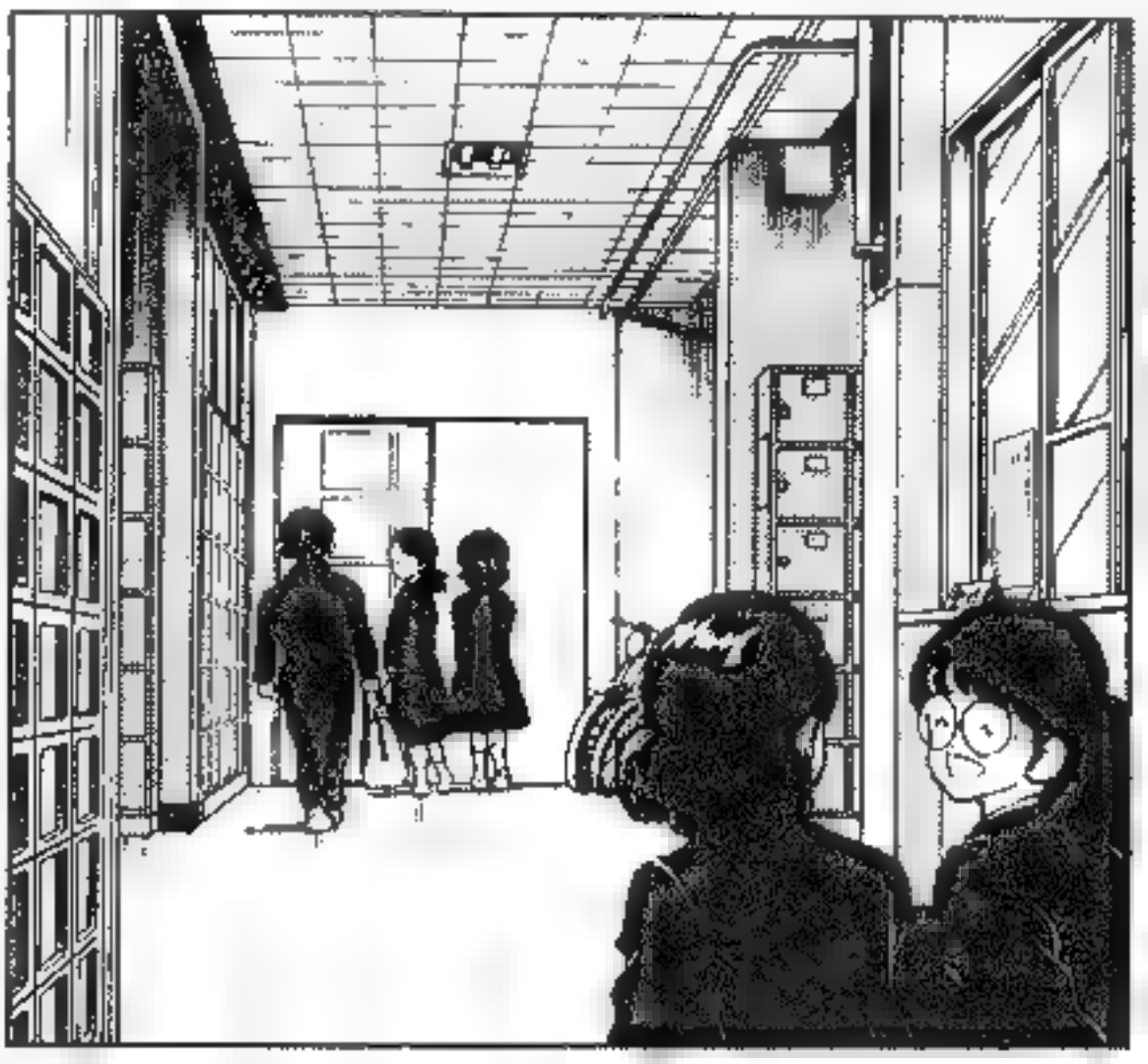

DON'T GET ALL WORKED UP JUST FROM BEING CHALLENGED TO A PRACTICE GAME.
AND YOU AS WELL.


WE'RE ALL JUST HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!
THE FAMOUS AND THE NAMELESS DON'T EXIST.
THE GAME IS PLAYED BY 9 PEOPLE.

TRADE.

CLICK
LET'S GRANDLY ACCEPT AND RISE UP TO THEM.





Fight!

I HEARD THAT THE BASEBALL TEAM IS PLAYING A GAME WITH SUMI TECH!?

MINAMI-I-I!!

Rhythmic Gymnastics Team

WOW, IT'S TRUE!

FAST AS USUAL, HM...

MAYBE THEIR 2ND-STRING TEAM IS COMING

BUT, THEIR OPPONENT IS OUR BASEBALL TEAM.

NOW LOOK HERE...

IS NITTA AKIO COMING, TOO?

OF COURSE.

HE'S THE CLEANUP HITTER.

WAH!

THERE'S NO WAY THEY'D DO SOMETH NG NSULTING L KE THAT

SUMI TECH CHALLENGED US TO THE GAME.

OBVIOUSLY, SOMETHING LIKE THAT...

CHEER FOR WHO?

I'LL CHEER FOR THEM.

ALL RIGHT ..

IS TATSUYA-KUN PITCHING?

...

IT'S ONLY NATURAL, RIGHT?

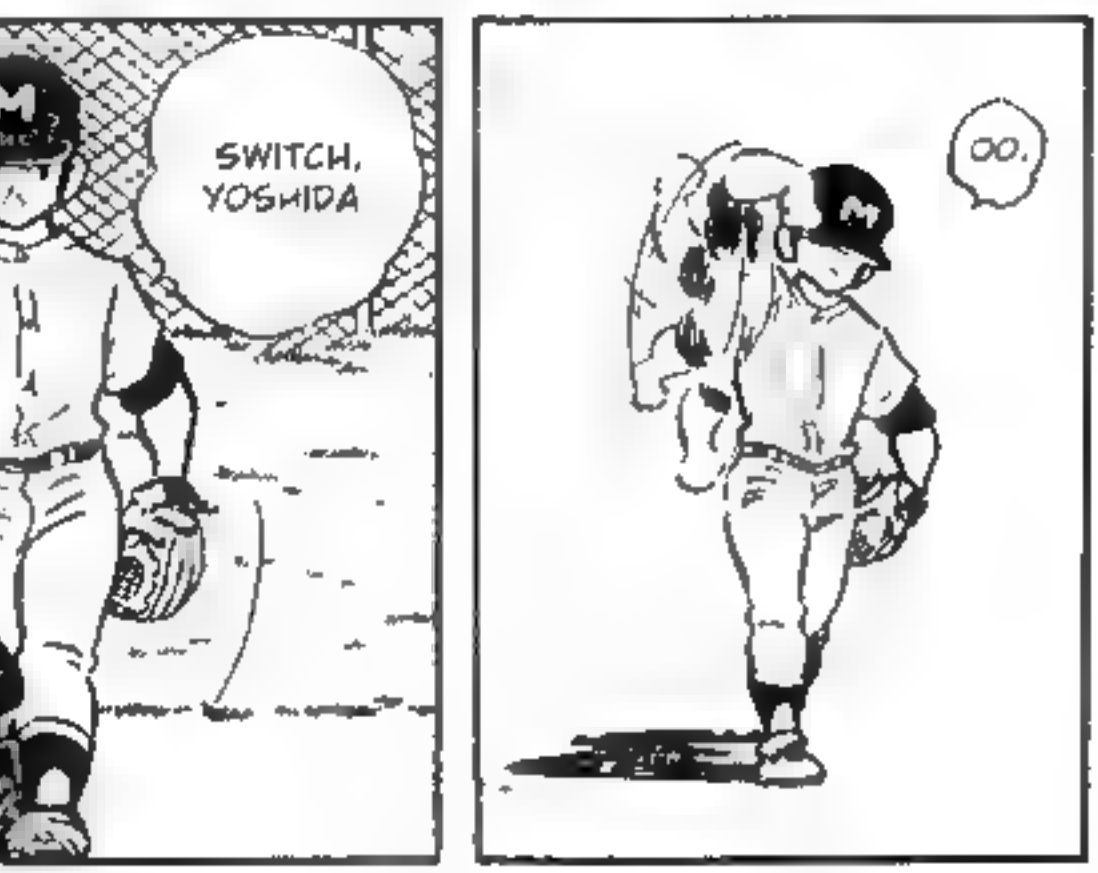
'CAUSE HE'S THE ACE.

HE'S PITCHING.

PRACTICE, PRACTICE

C'MON

URG



SWITCH, YOSHIDA

oo.

YES, THERE ARE...

AND SO, SWITCH.

THAT'S NO GOOD ...

NOT YET.

IF IT'S A CATCHER YOU WANT, THERE ARE OTHERS.

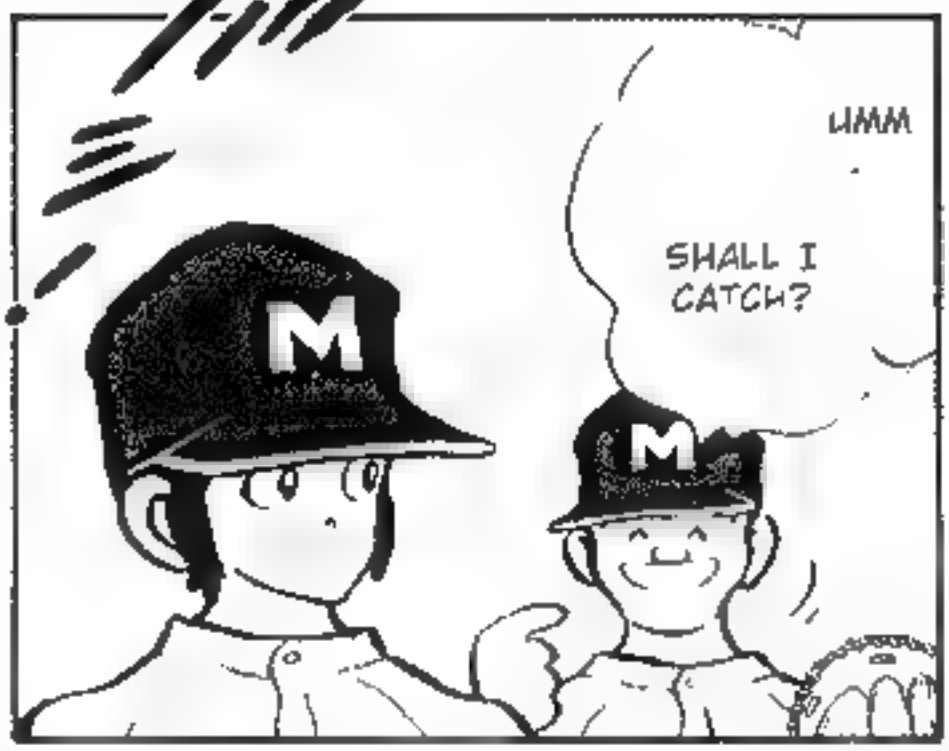
WE HAVE AN IMPORTANT GAME...

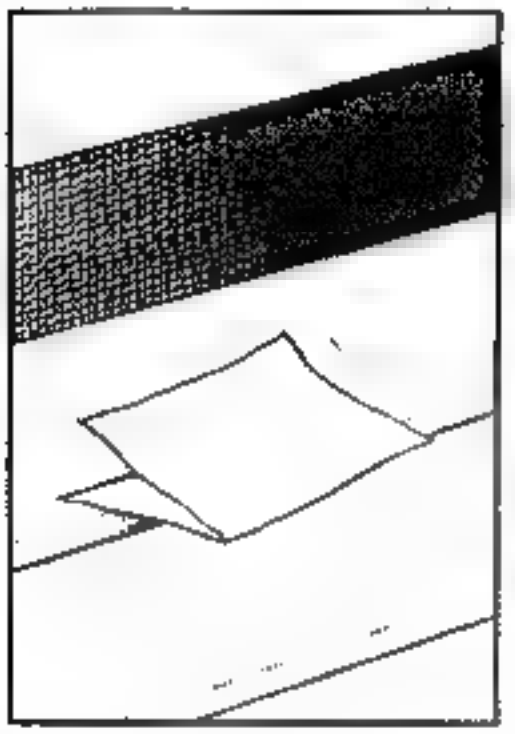
AND IT WOULD BE BAD IF THE ACE AND REGULAR CATCHER WEREN'T IN SYNCH.

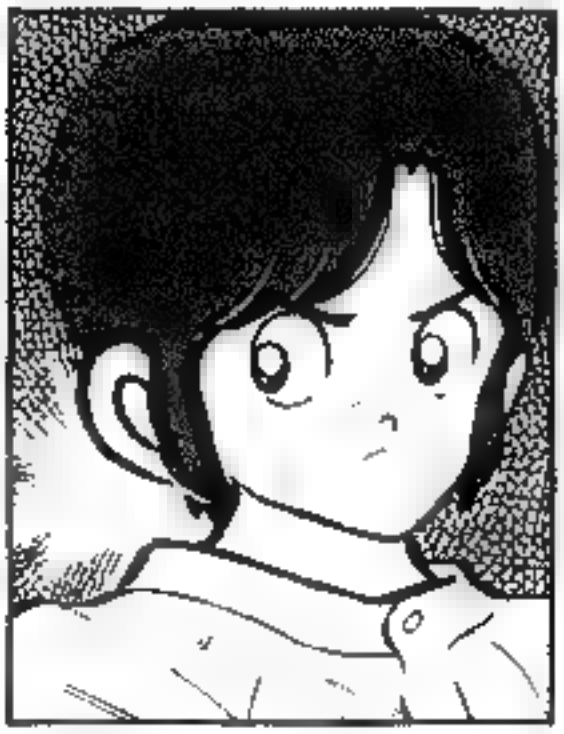
LET'S GO, KOUTAROU!

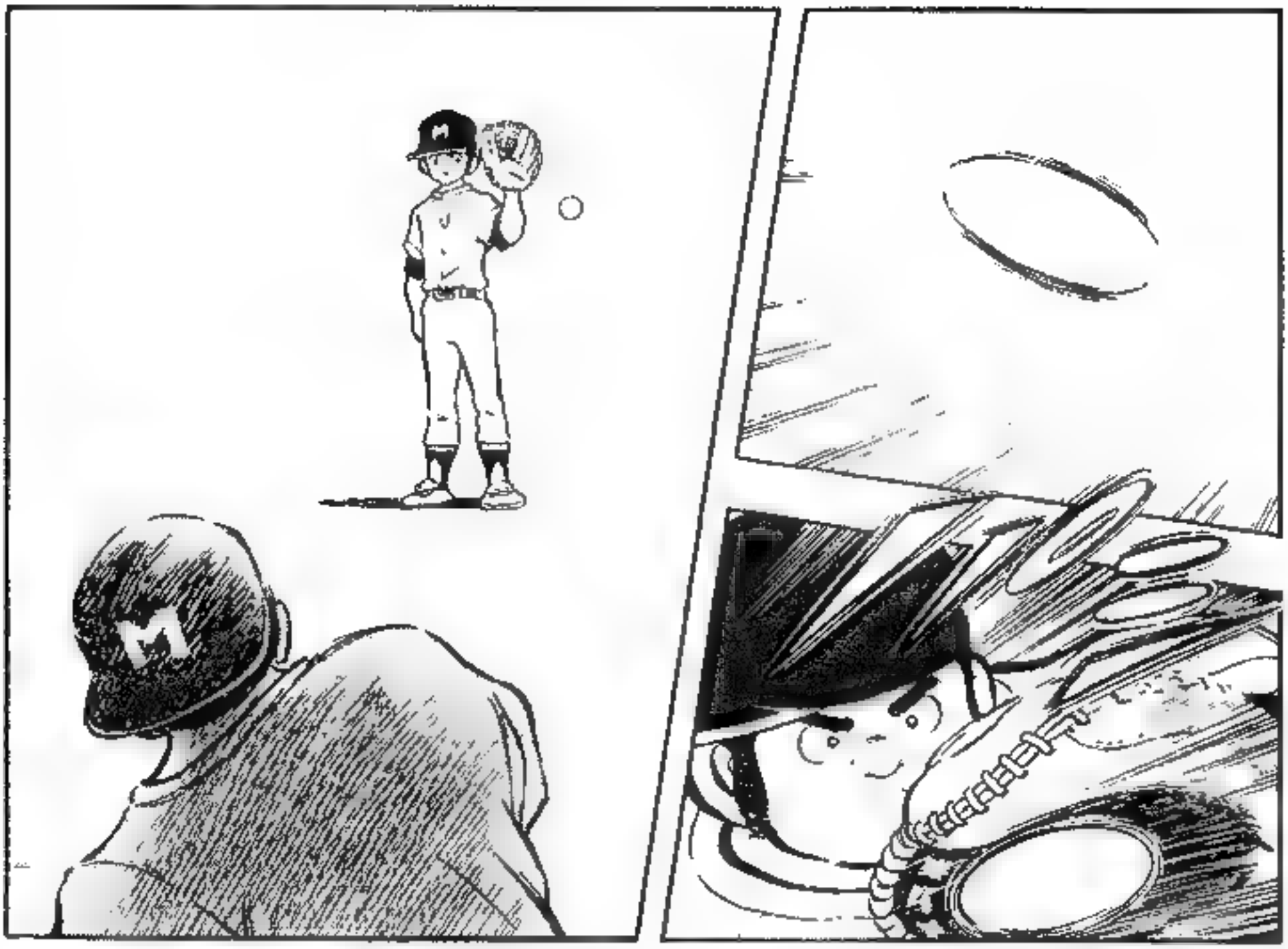
ALL RIGHT, BRING IT ON!

HMPH

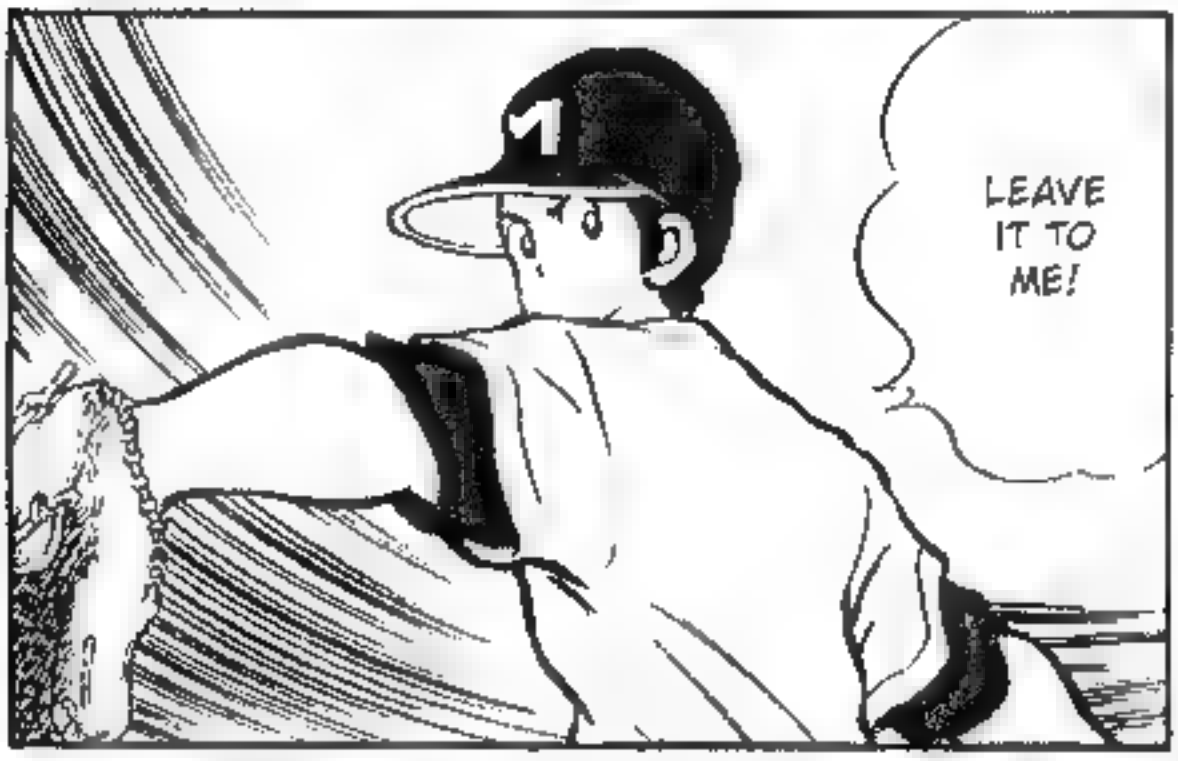

UMM
SHALL I CATCH?

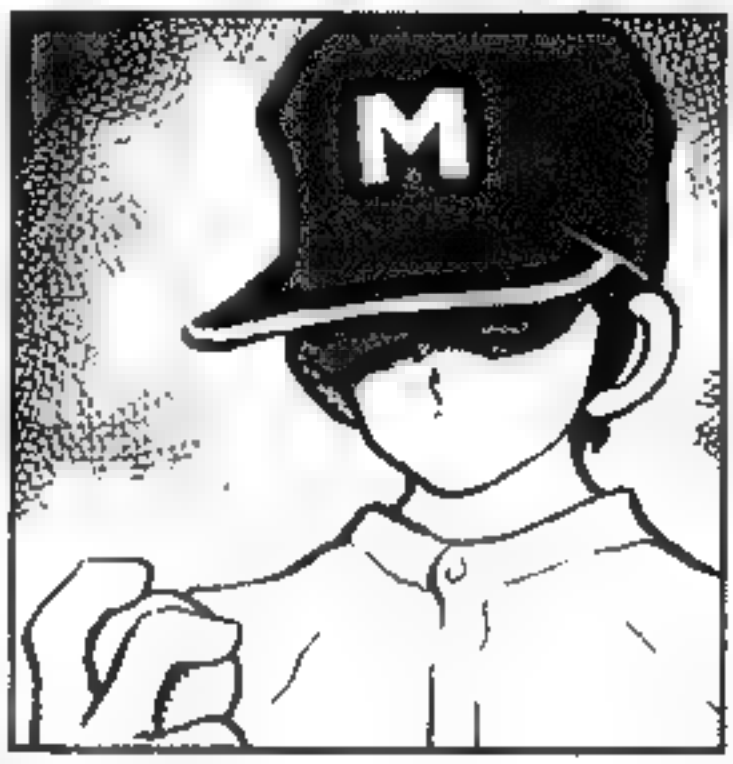


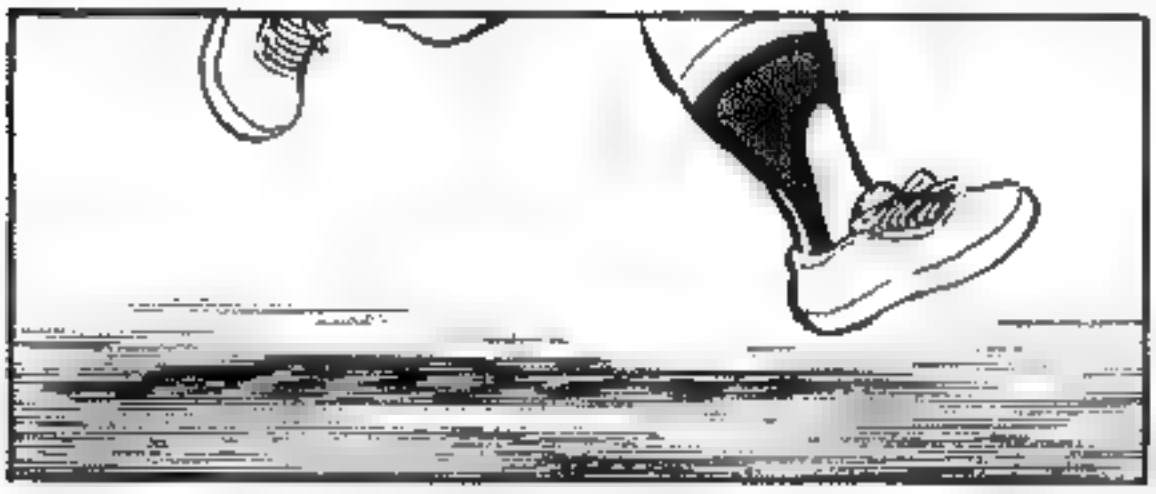


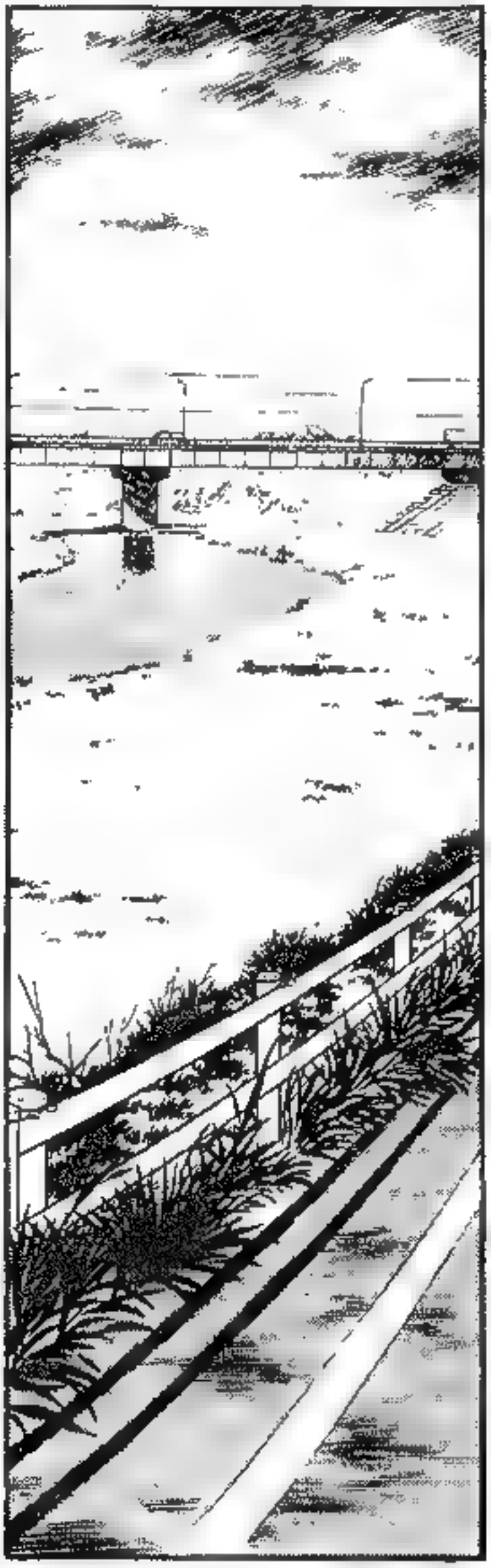


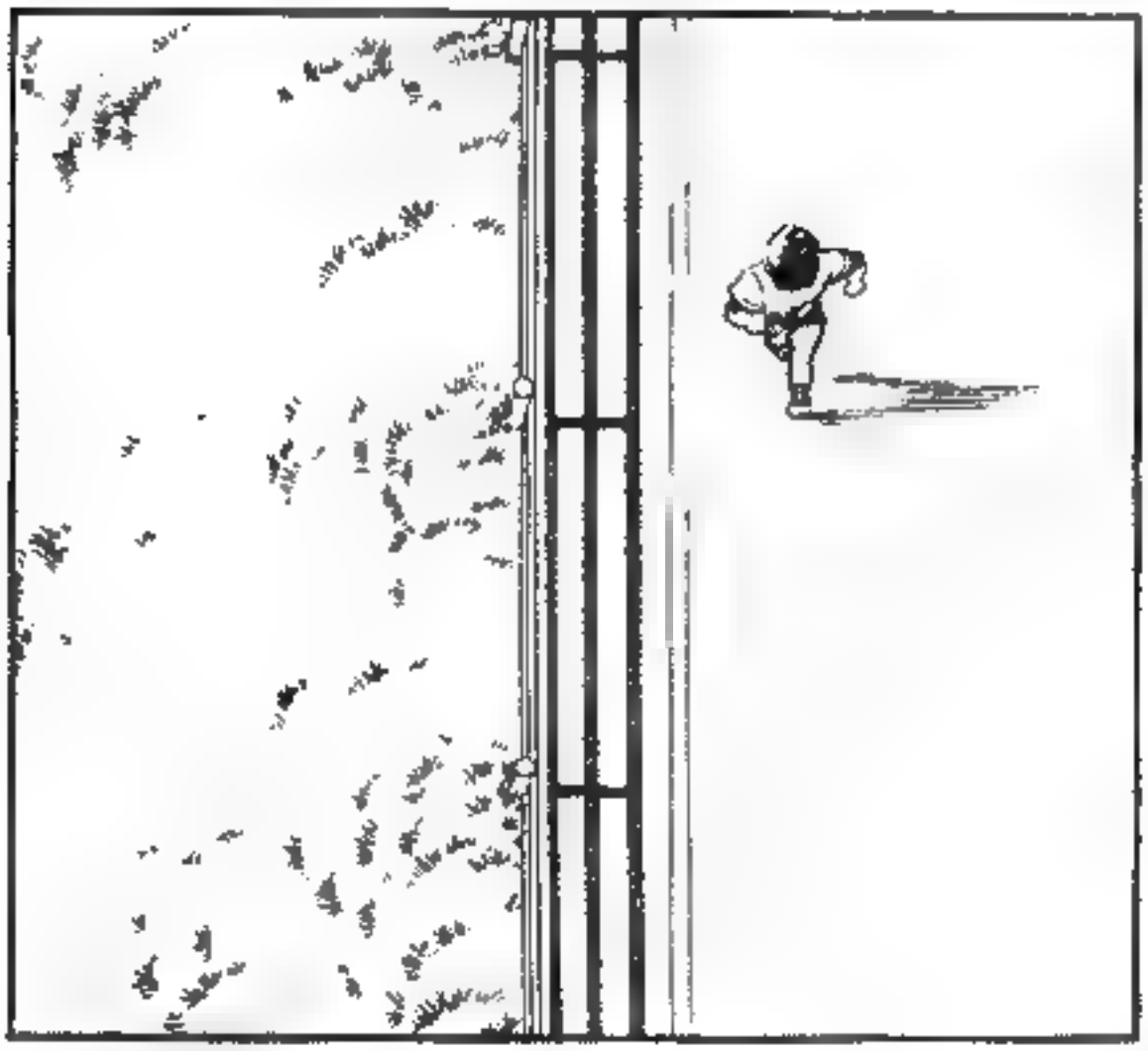
"BE BETTER THAN UESUGI KAZUYA FOR ME!"

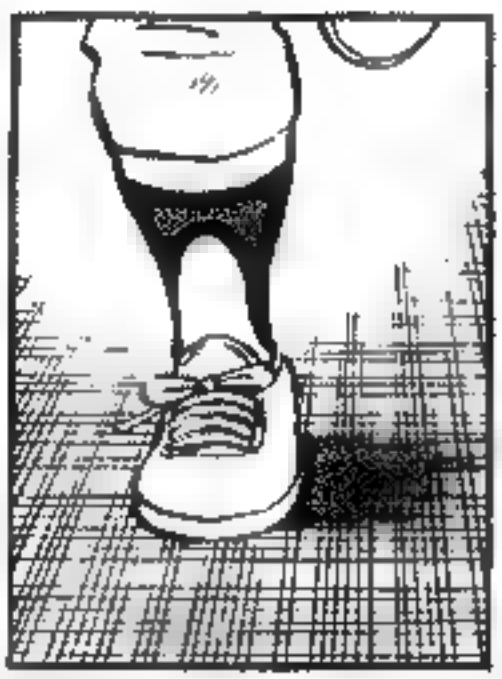

LEAVE IT TO ME!











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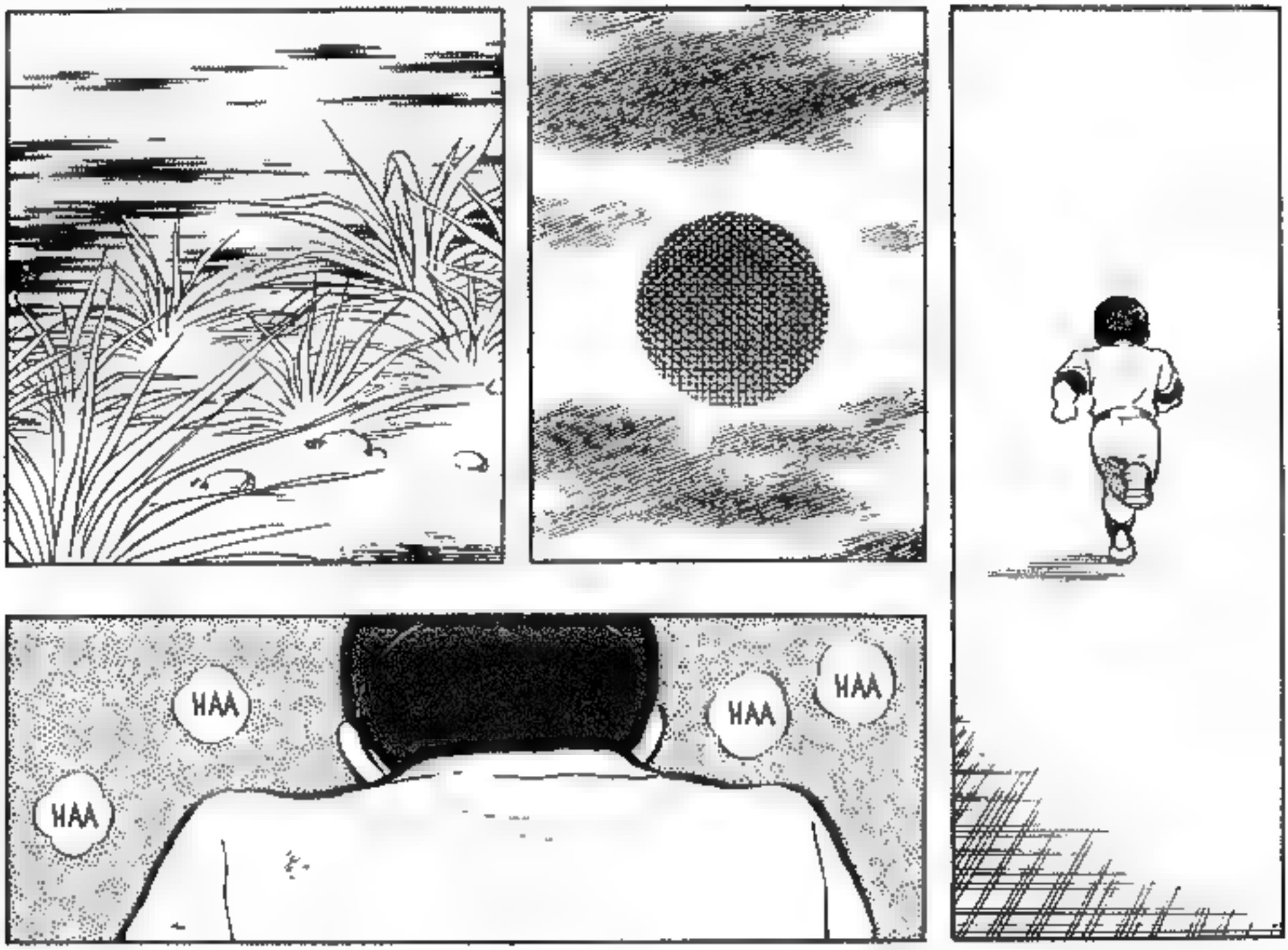
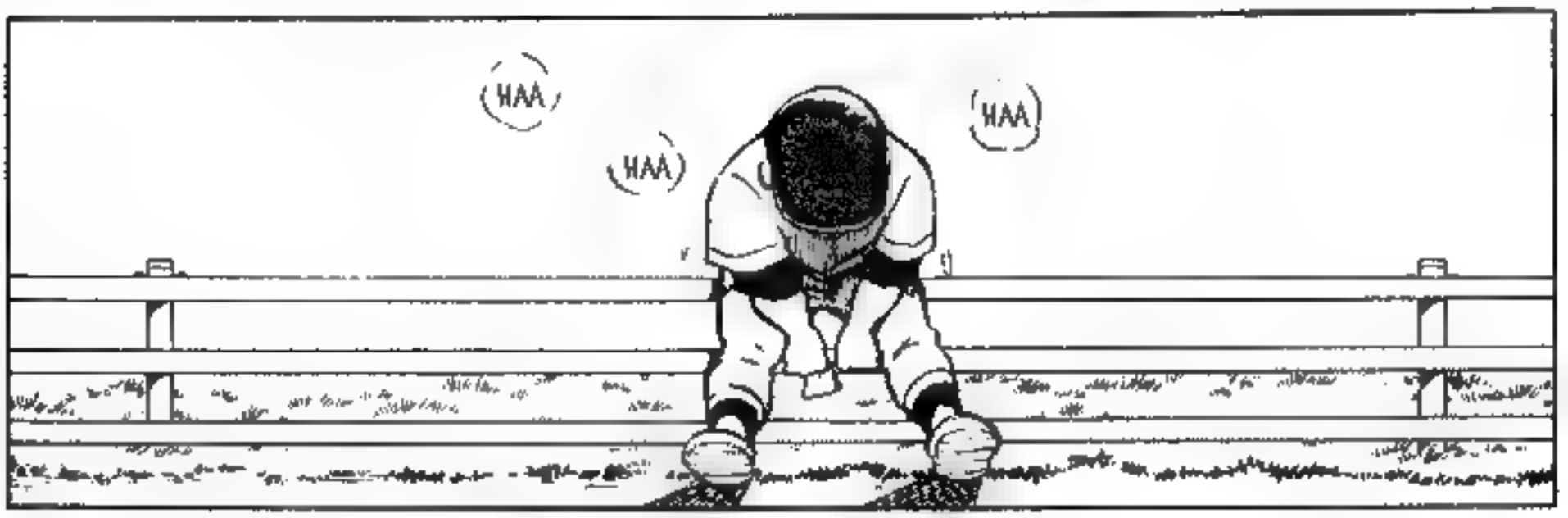
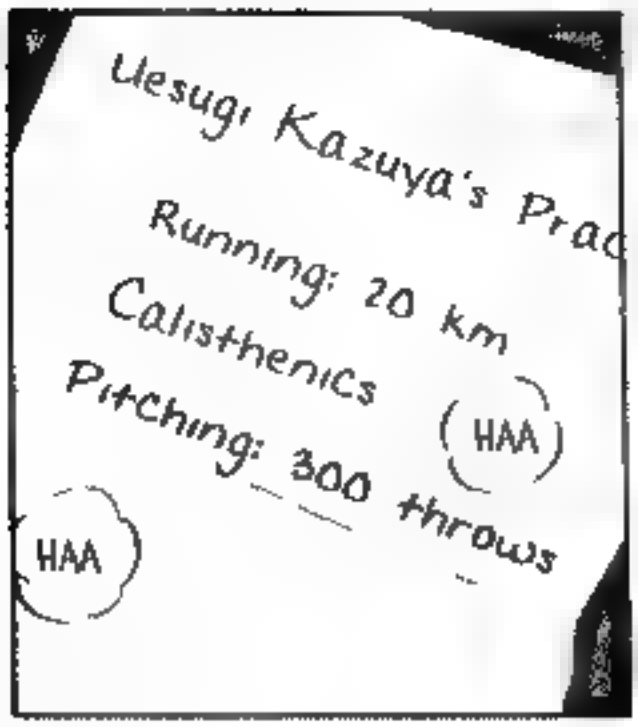
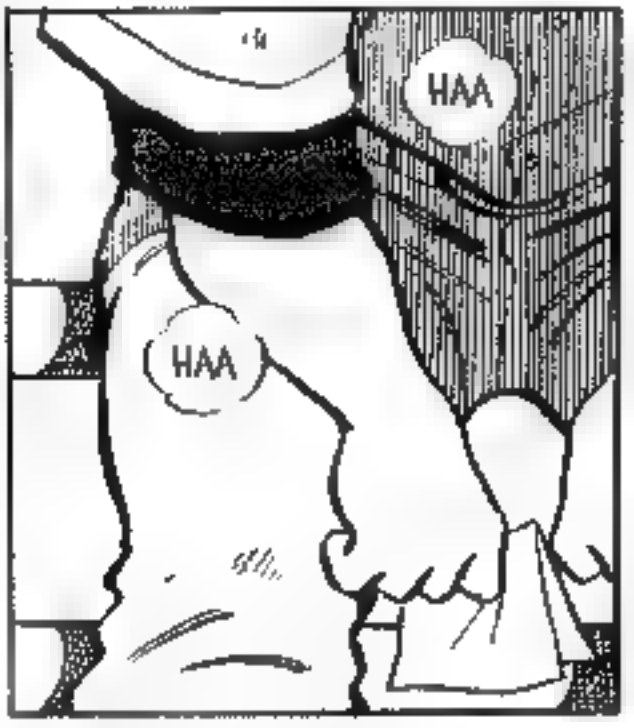








UESUGI KAZUYA HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT.

HMPH

MY OPPONENT IS UESUGI TATSUYA.

E!!

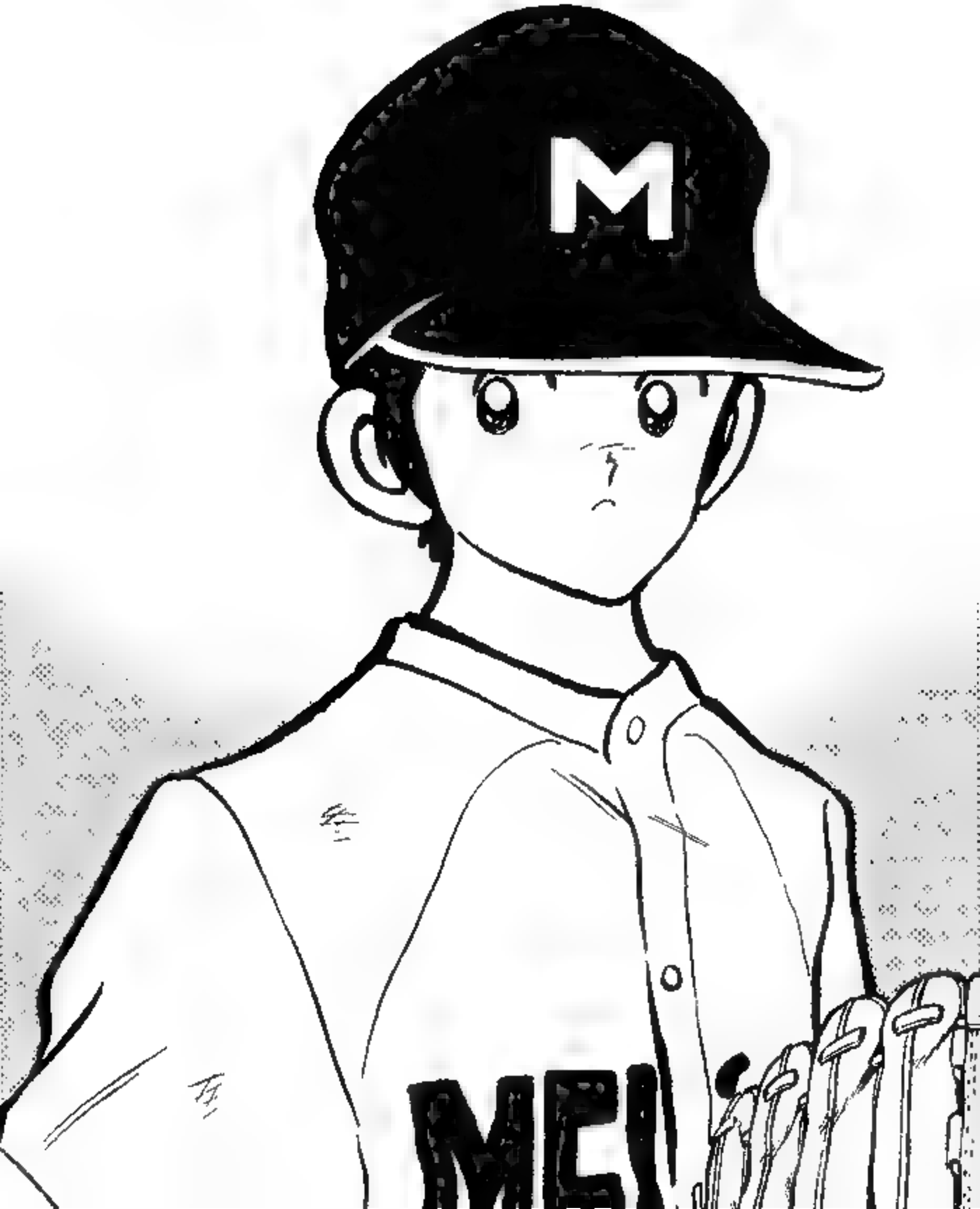
BATTING THIRD, IN RIGHT, UESUGI.

BATTING FIRST, IN CENTER, KUDOU

SECOND, IN LEFT, MARU-YAMA.

I'M ANNOUNCING THE STARTING LINEUP FOR TOMORROW'S GAME AGAINST SUM TECH

The Pitcher, Yoshida



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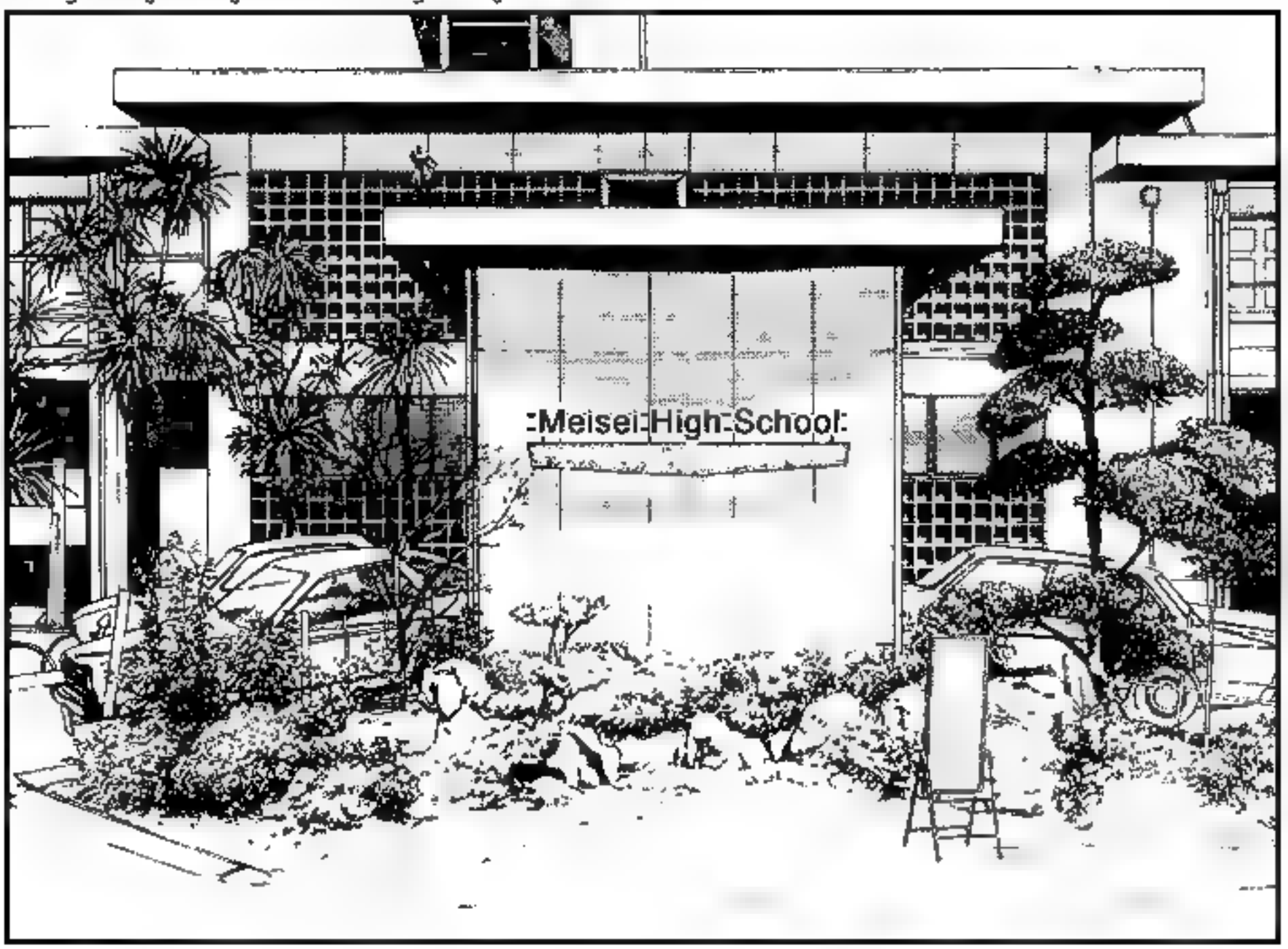
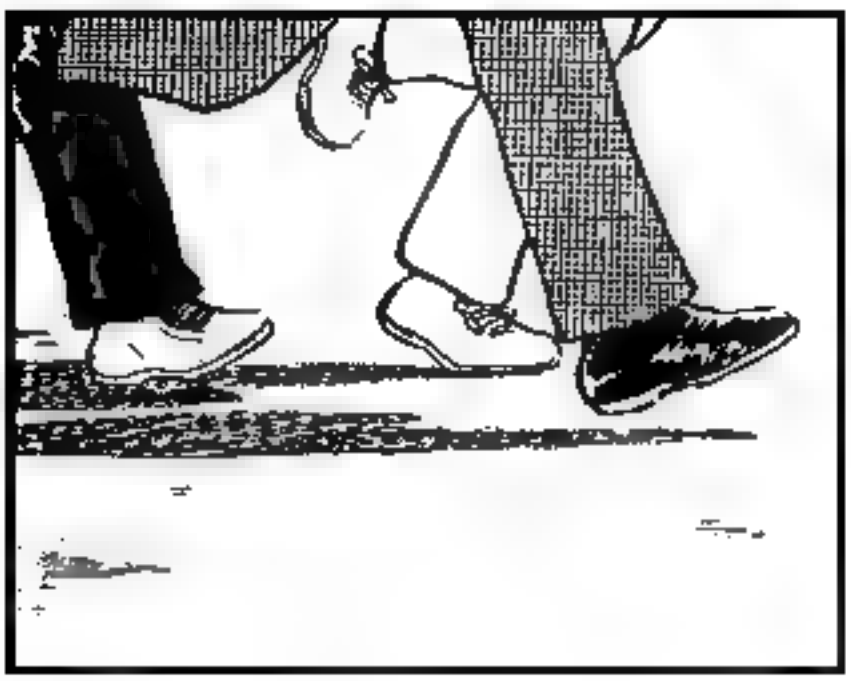
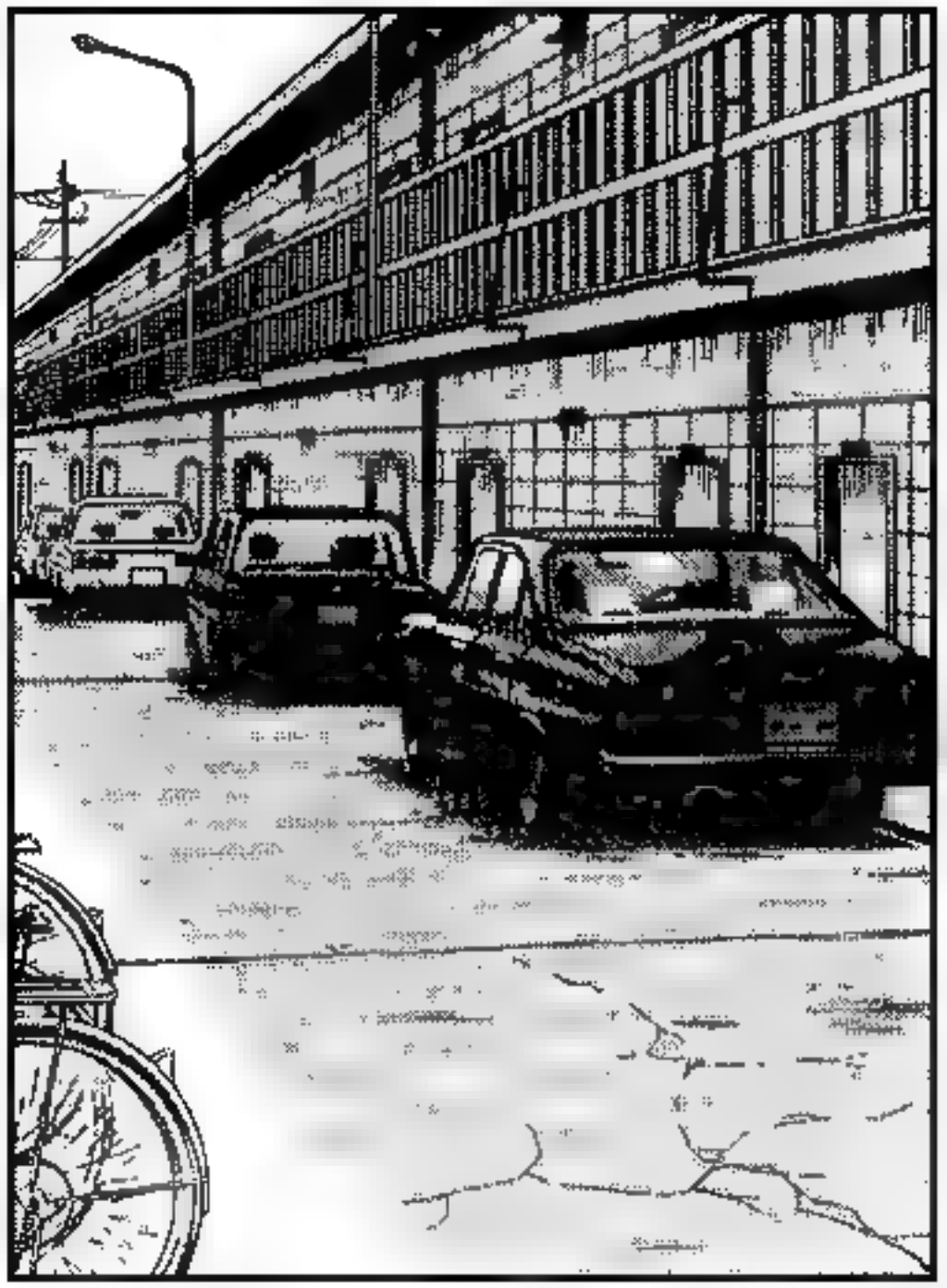






YAAAY!

YAAAY!

BUZZ
BUZZ

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5
Sumi Tech					
Meisei					

KYA!

KYA!

BUZZ
BUZZ

CLICK-WHIRR
CLICK-WHIRR

BUZZ
BUZZ

SUMI

4

7

9

7

S

THE PITCHER'S YOSHIDA?

SFX:<CLINK>

RIGHT!

O

P
L
O
P

O

C
L
I
N
N
N
K

TATCHAN ...

...

YES.

AH...

KOUTA-ROU.

THAT YOUR COACH IS A COLDHEARTED MAN WHO WILL STOP AT NOTHING IN ORDER TO WIN...

PASS THE WORD ALONG TO EVERYONE.

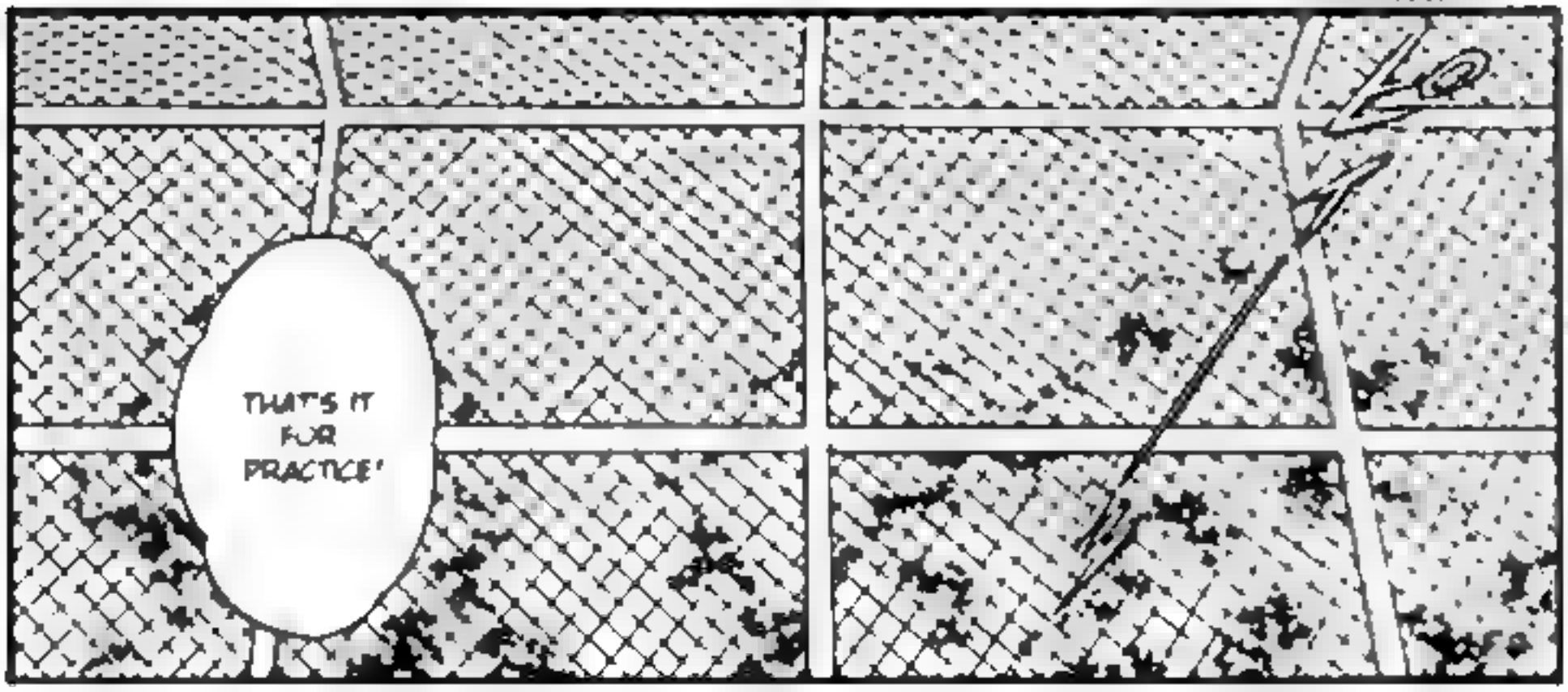
GOT THAT?

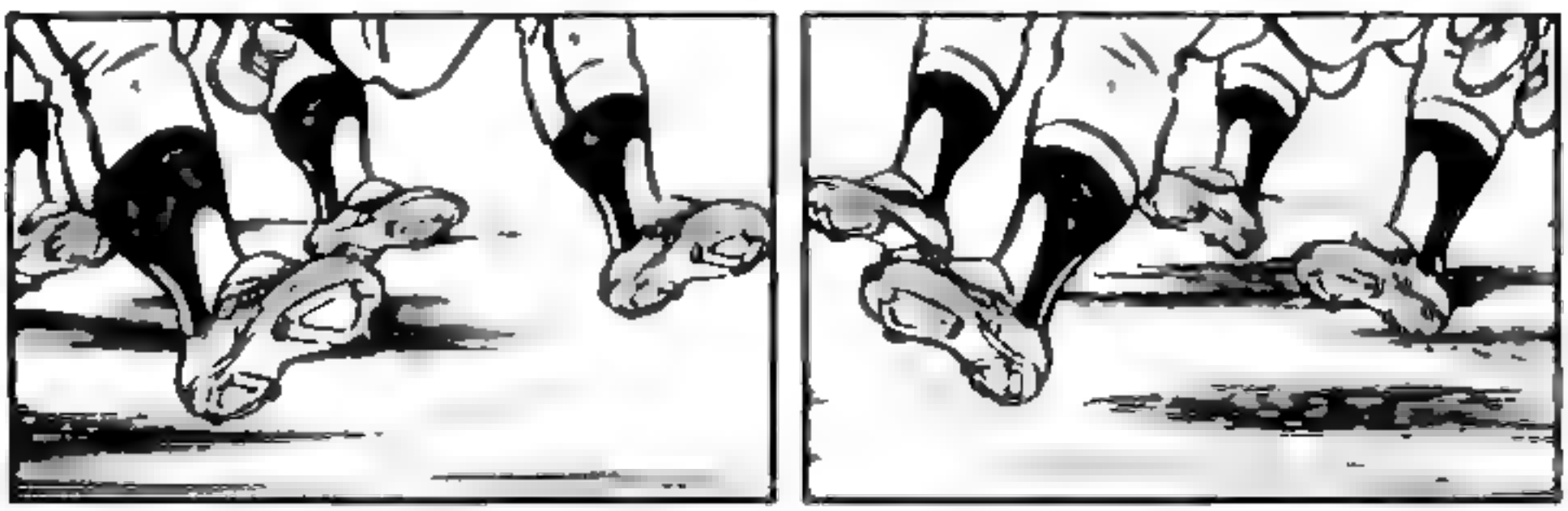
ANY PLAYER WHO ISN'T INTERESTED IN PLAYING, WILL BE YANKED IMMEDIATELY.

ANYONE WHO DOESN'T OBEY HIS COACH'S ORDERS ...

HUH?

Nothing More Than
Managing Baseball But
It's Managing Baseball
Coach Hodges

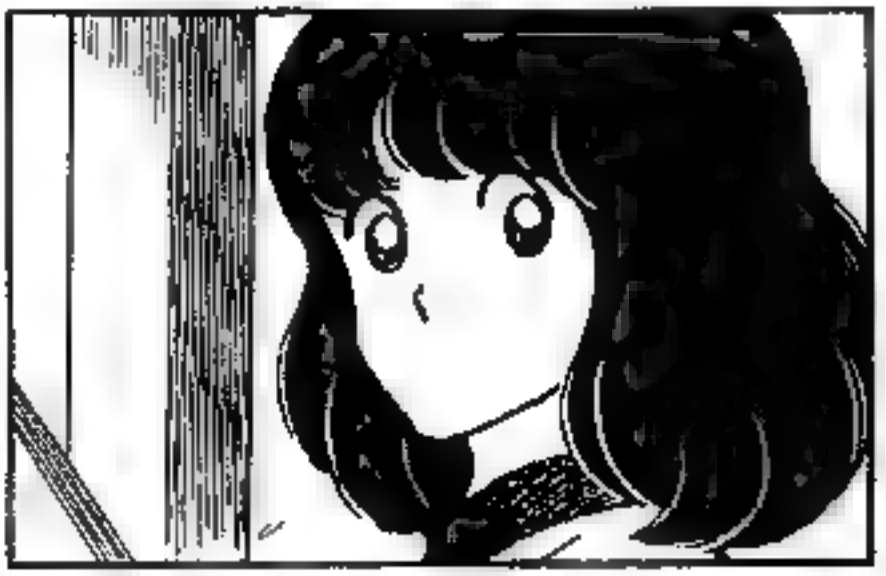

THAT'S IT
FOR
PRACTICE!



GOOD MORN-ING!

10

M



M

M

PLAY BALL!

LET'S GO!!

MEISEI

SCRITCH!

SU

SFX. <WHAP!>

STRIKE!

STRIKE!

4

SFX: <WHAP>

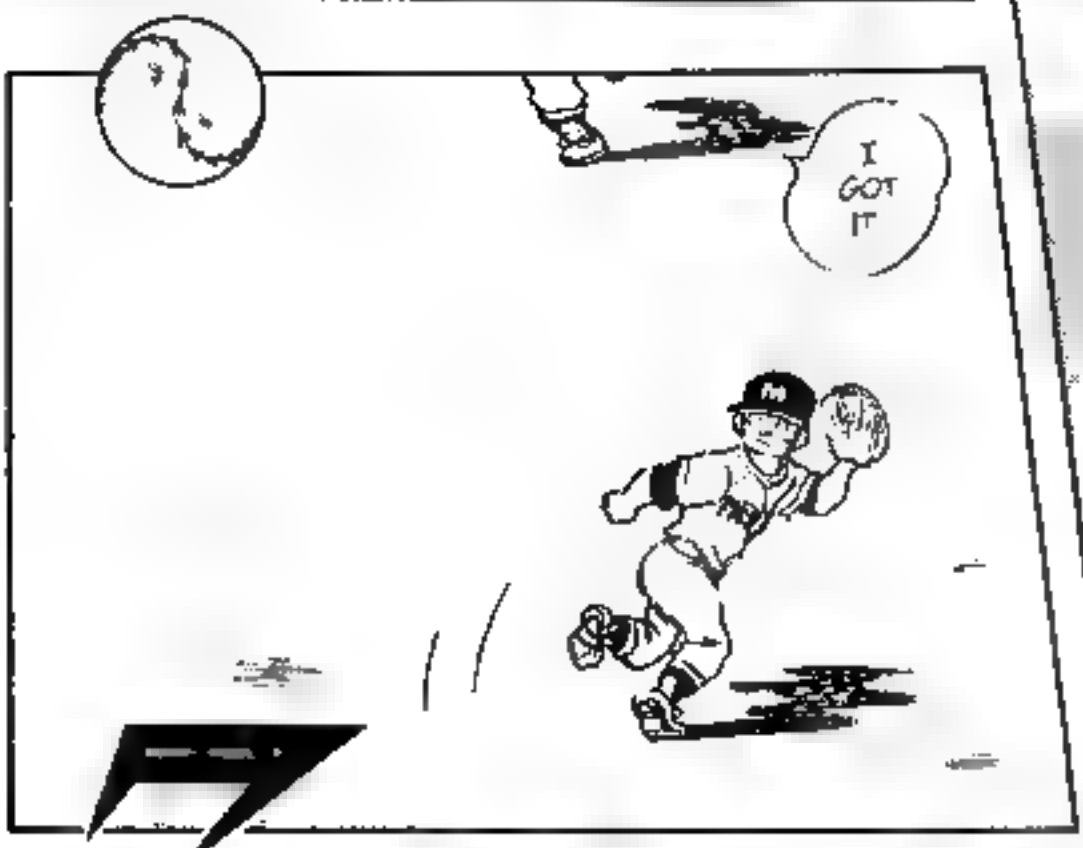
STRIKE! BATTER OUT!

MM-HM.

.....

SFX: <WIP!>

STRIKE! BATTER OUT!


I GOT IT

EH?

BIP

HMMM.

.....

ANYWAY, THE BOTTOM-LINE IS THAT HE RAN AS HARD AS HE COULD TO CATCH THE BALL...

THAT IS TO SAY...

TH-THAT WAS ...

DON'T MIND ME, DON'T MIND ME.

....

IF HE WASN'T INTERESTED IN PLAYING HE WOULDN'T HAVE RUN SO FAR, HUH!?

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HEEEY

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

YEAH

SHOULDN'T YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY TO ME, TOO?

YOSHIDA.

W- WAIT!

UESUGI!

HEY, HEY

THE CUSTOMER IS GETTING IMPATIENT.

IF YOU'RE UPTIGHT WHENEVER THERE'S AN ERROR, YOU'RE NOT FIT TO BE A PITCHER!

IS WHAT ...

KAZUYA HAS SAID.

SUMI

If You Don't Pitch, Then...

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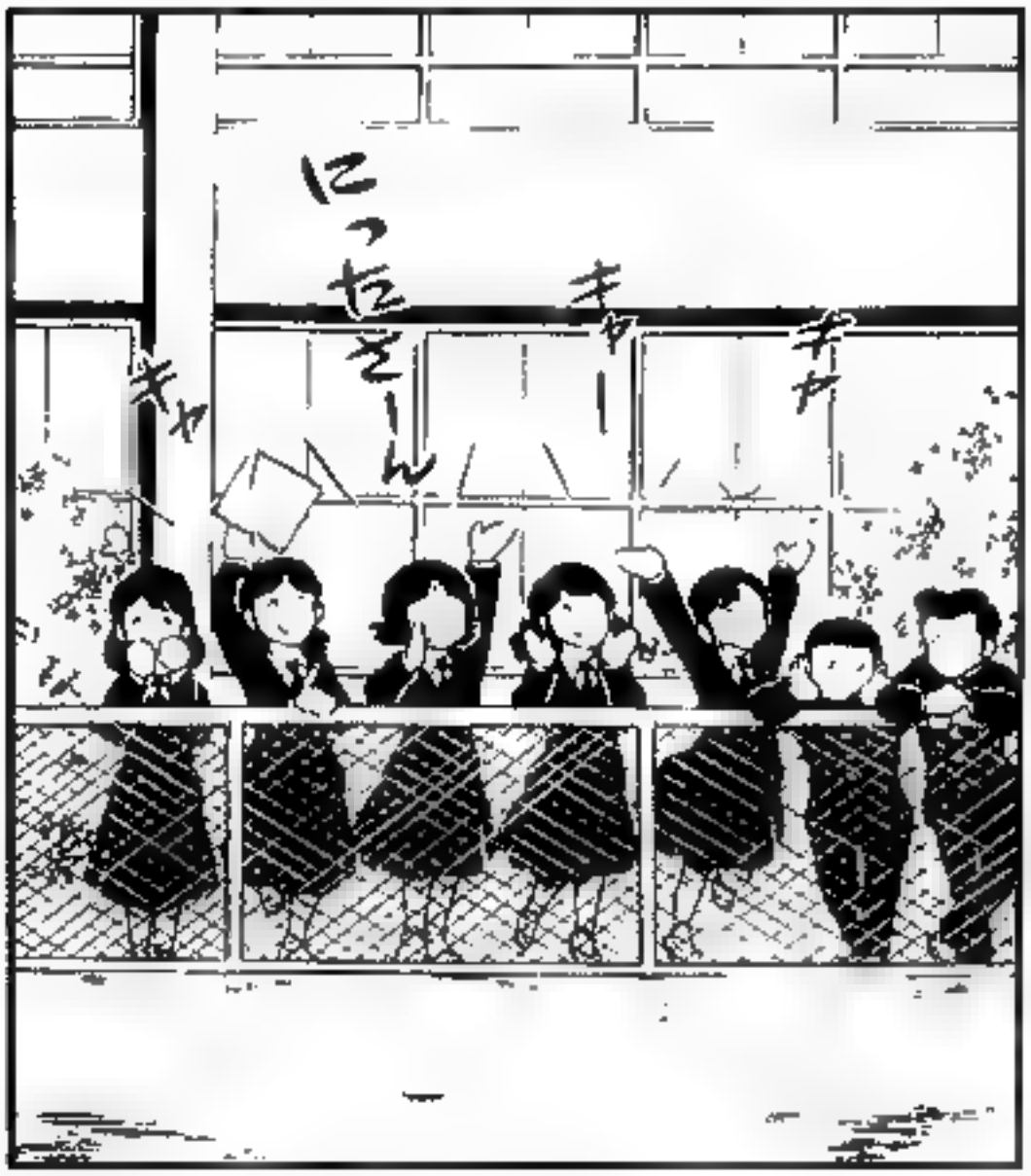
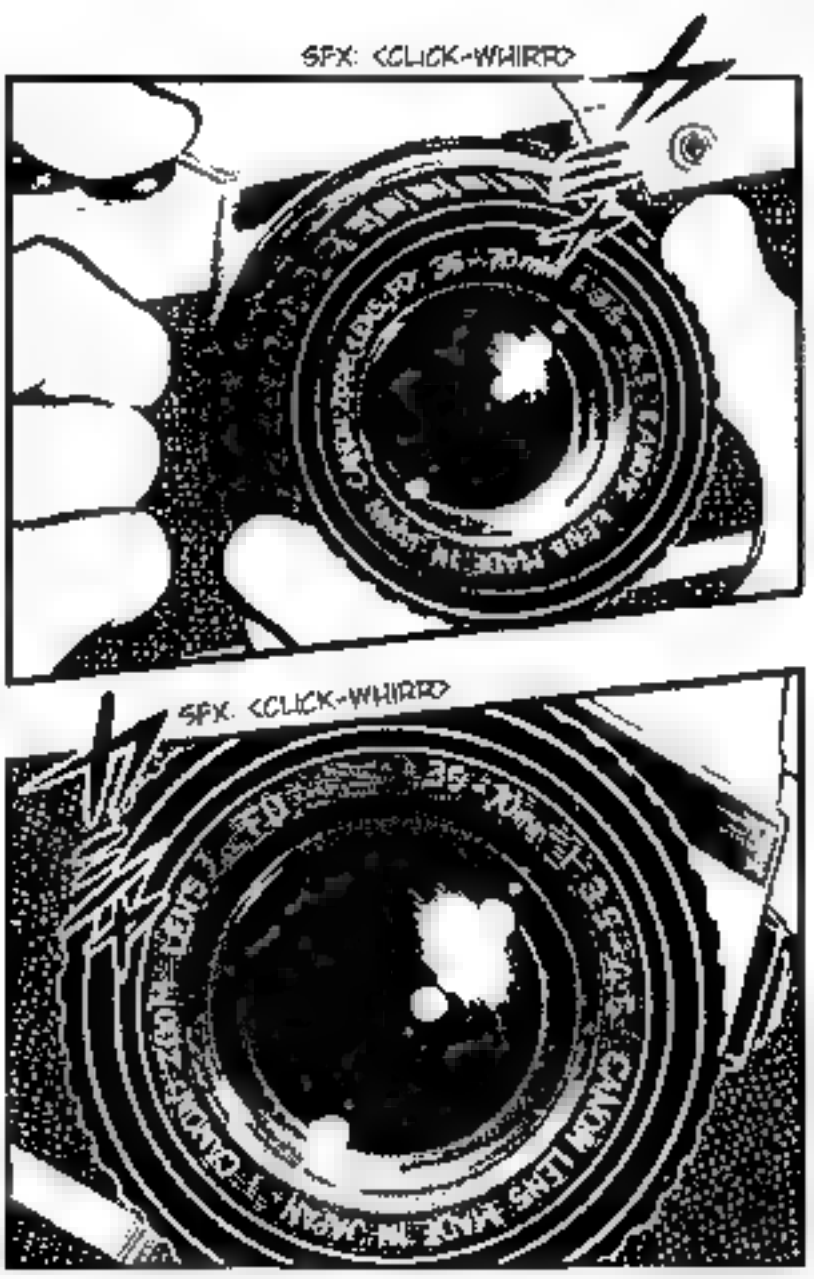
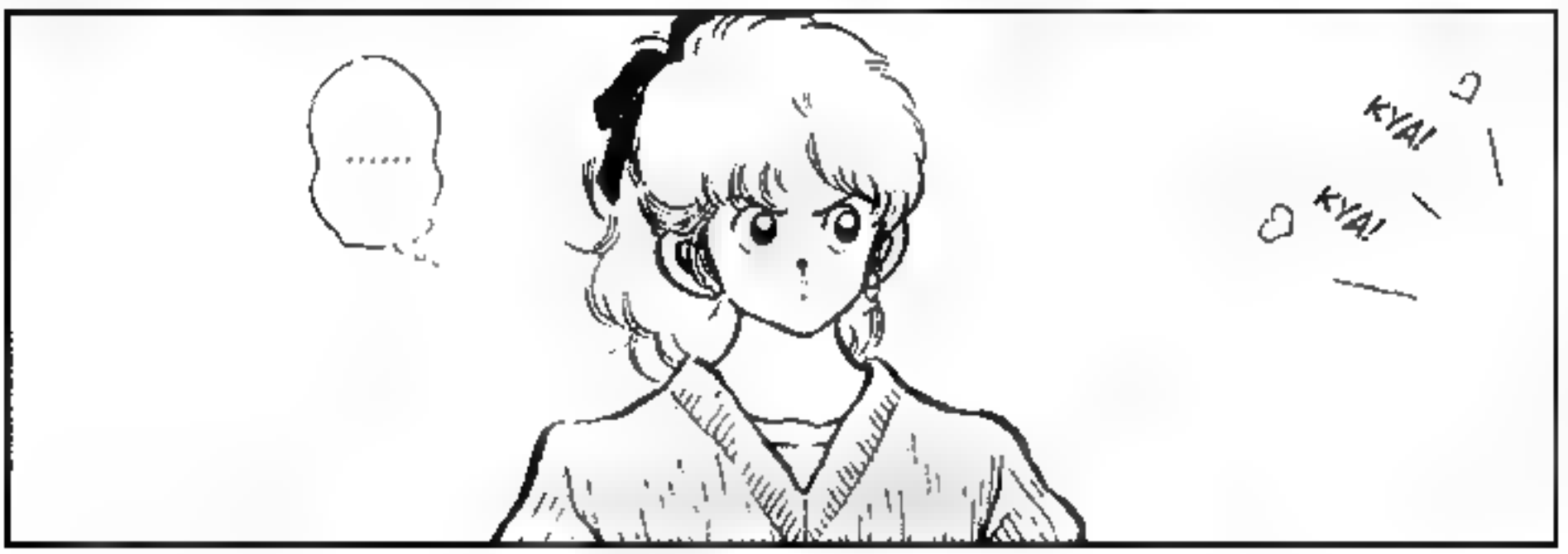
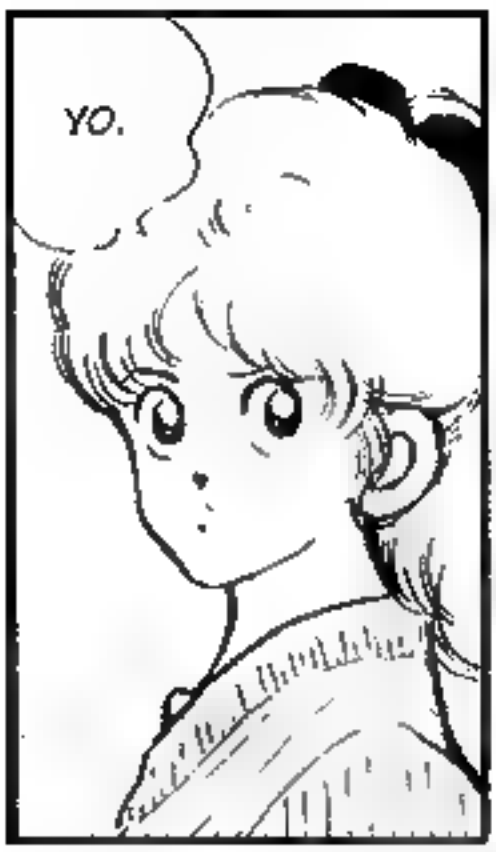
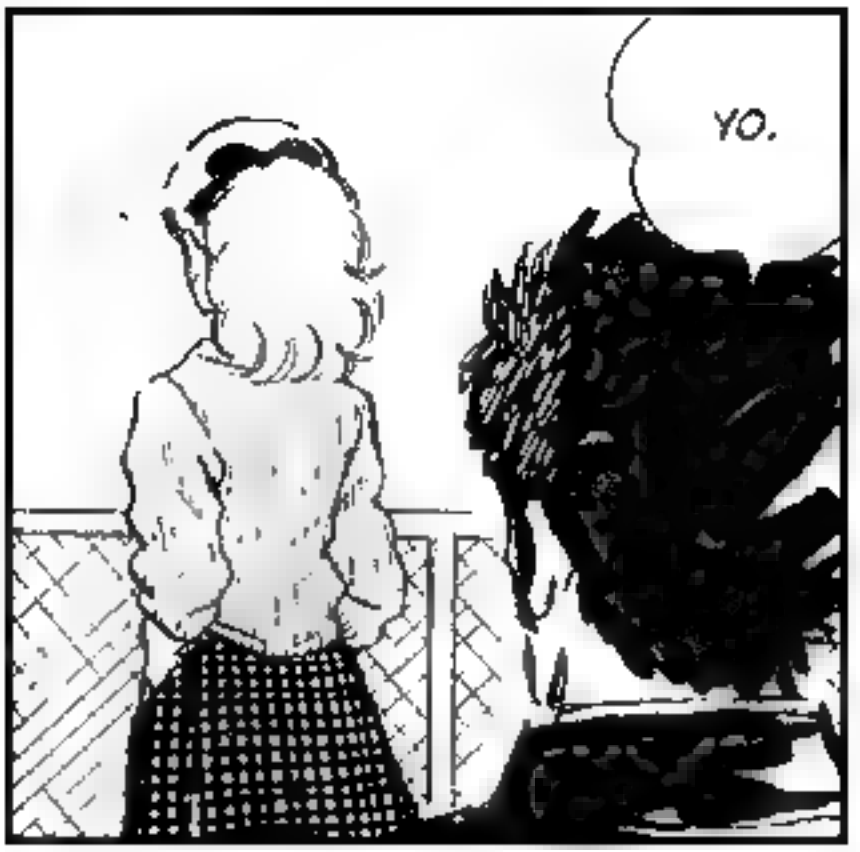
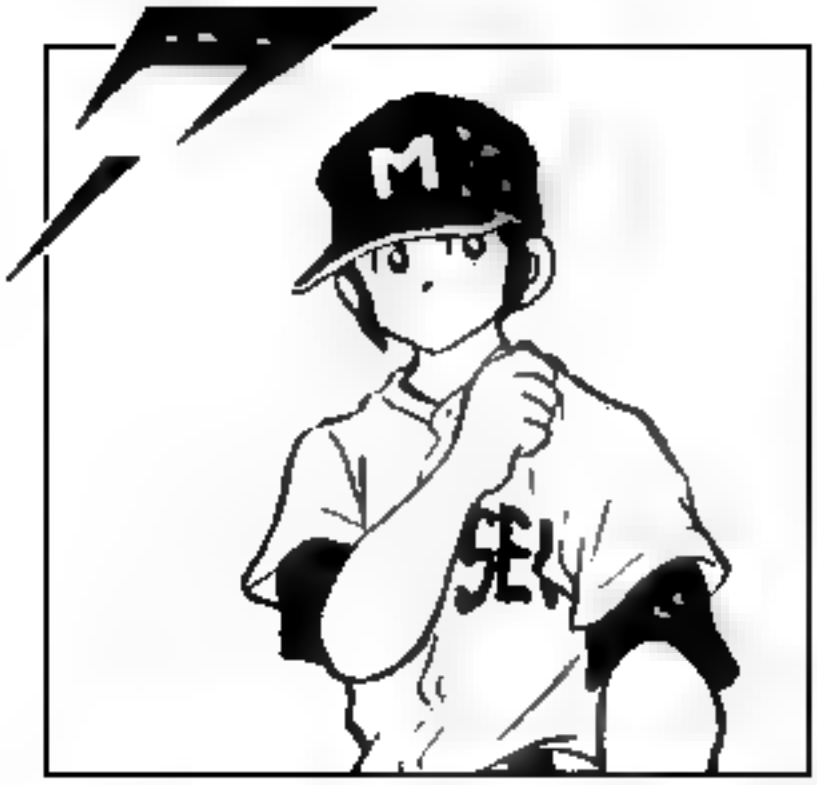


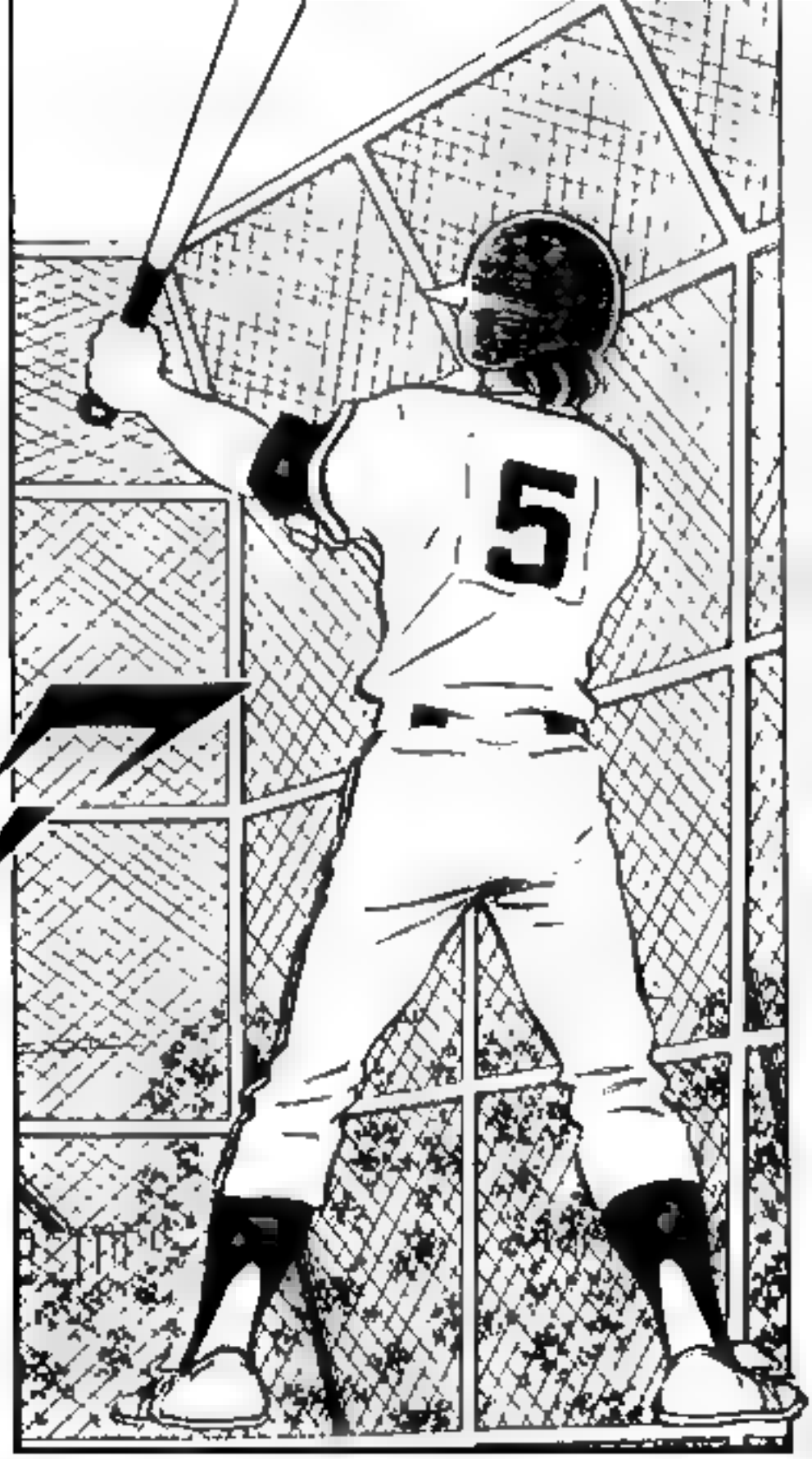









M
SEI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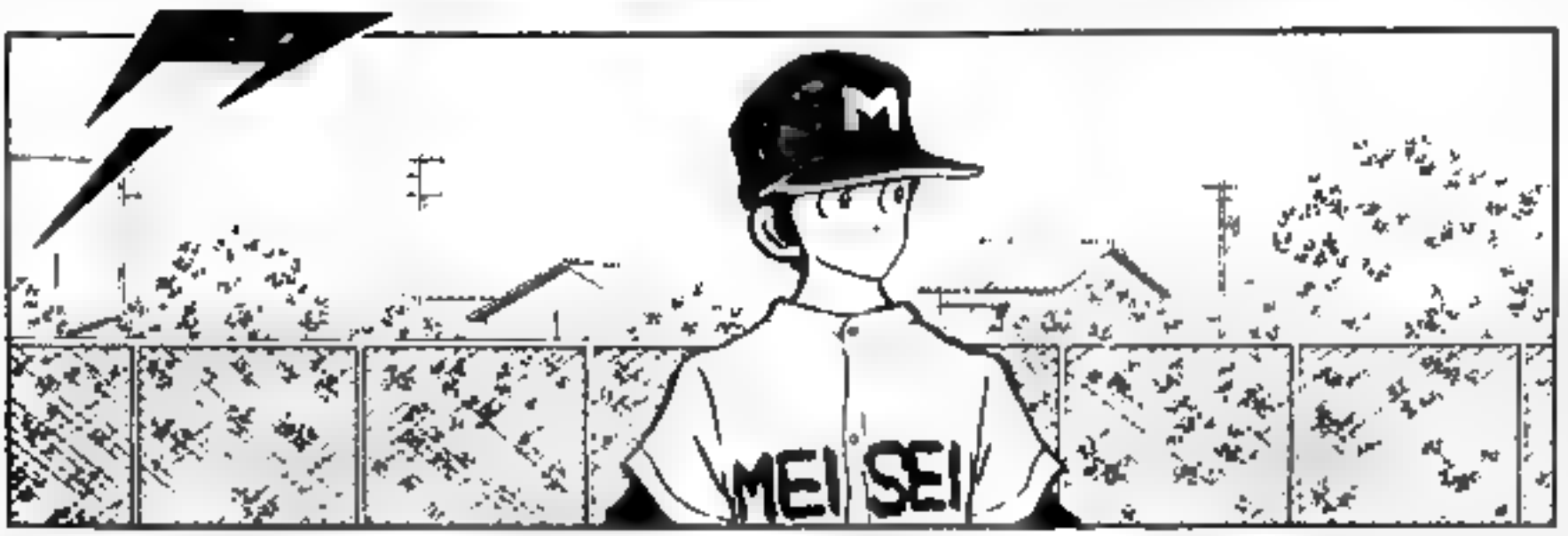
M


M
MEI SEI

DUNNO.

IS YOUR ACE HURT OR SOME-THING?

WHAT A LOUD-MOUTH

LET'S SHUT THIS DOWN!

MEI

STRIKE!

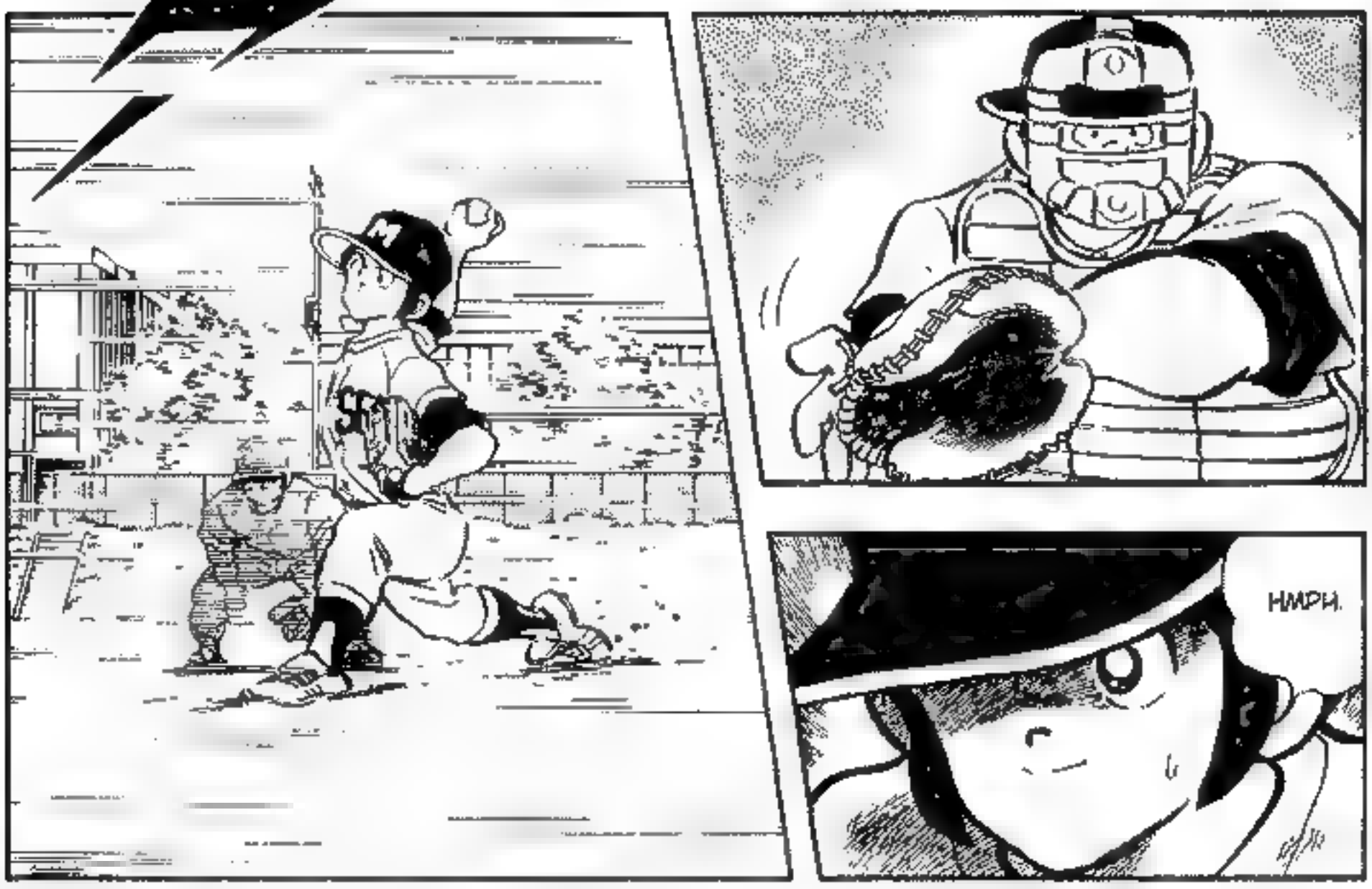
IGNORING THE SIGN AND THROWING RIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE

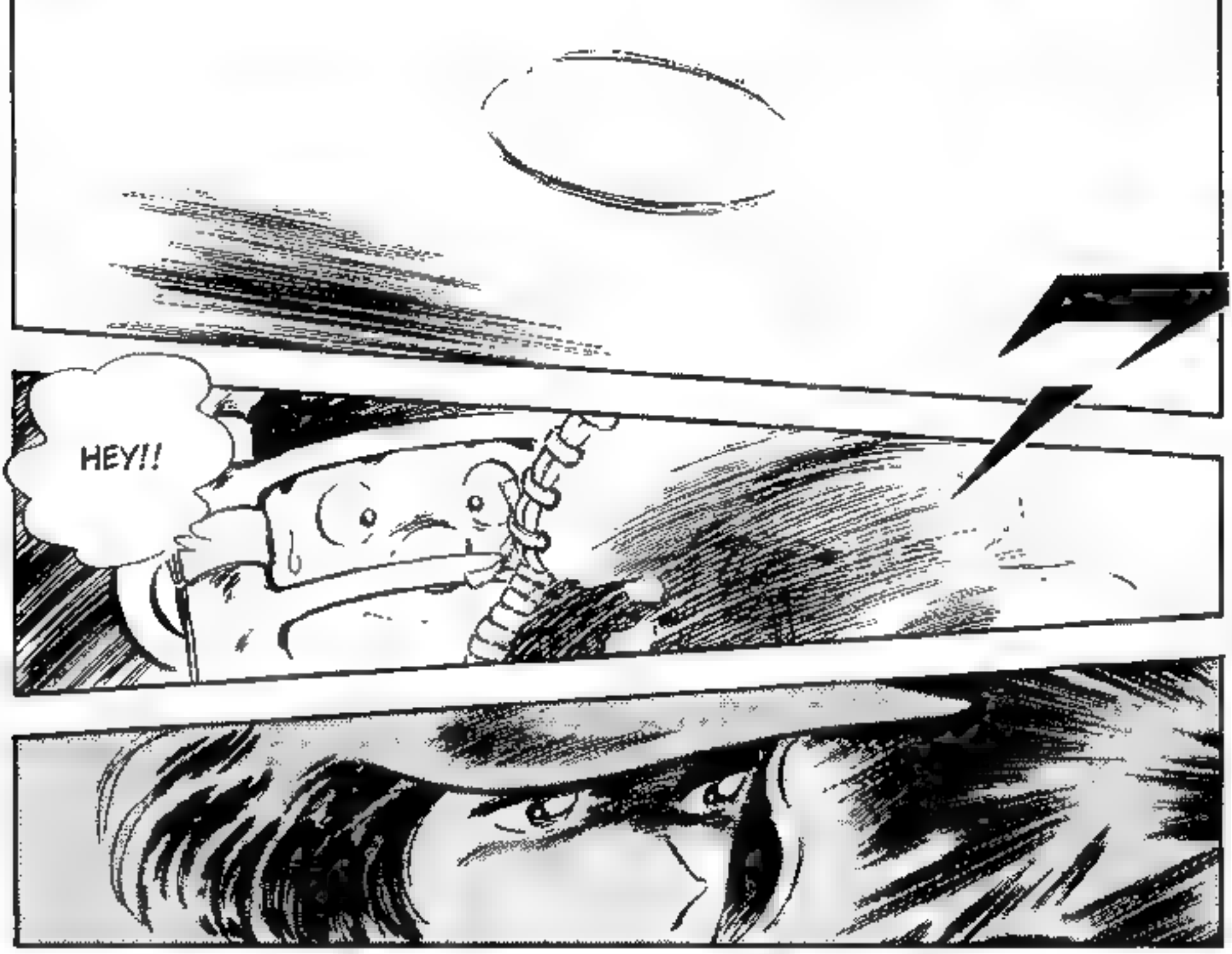
THAT JERK

STRIKE!

YOUR OPPONENT IS A CLEANUP BATTER WHO REPRESENTS KOUSHIEN.

DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY, YOSHIDA.


HMPH.


HEY!!

STRIKE! BATTER OUT!

.....

M

MEI-SEI

M

OH, NO.

OHH.

HUH?

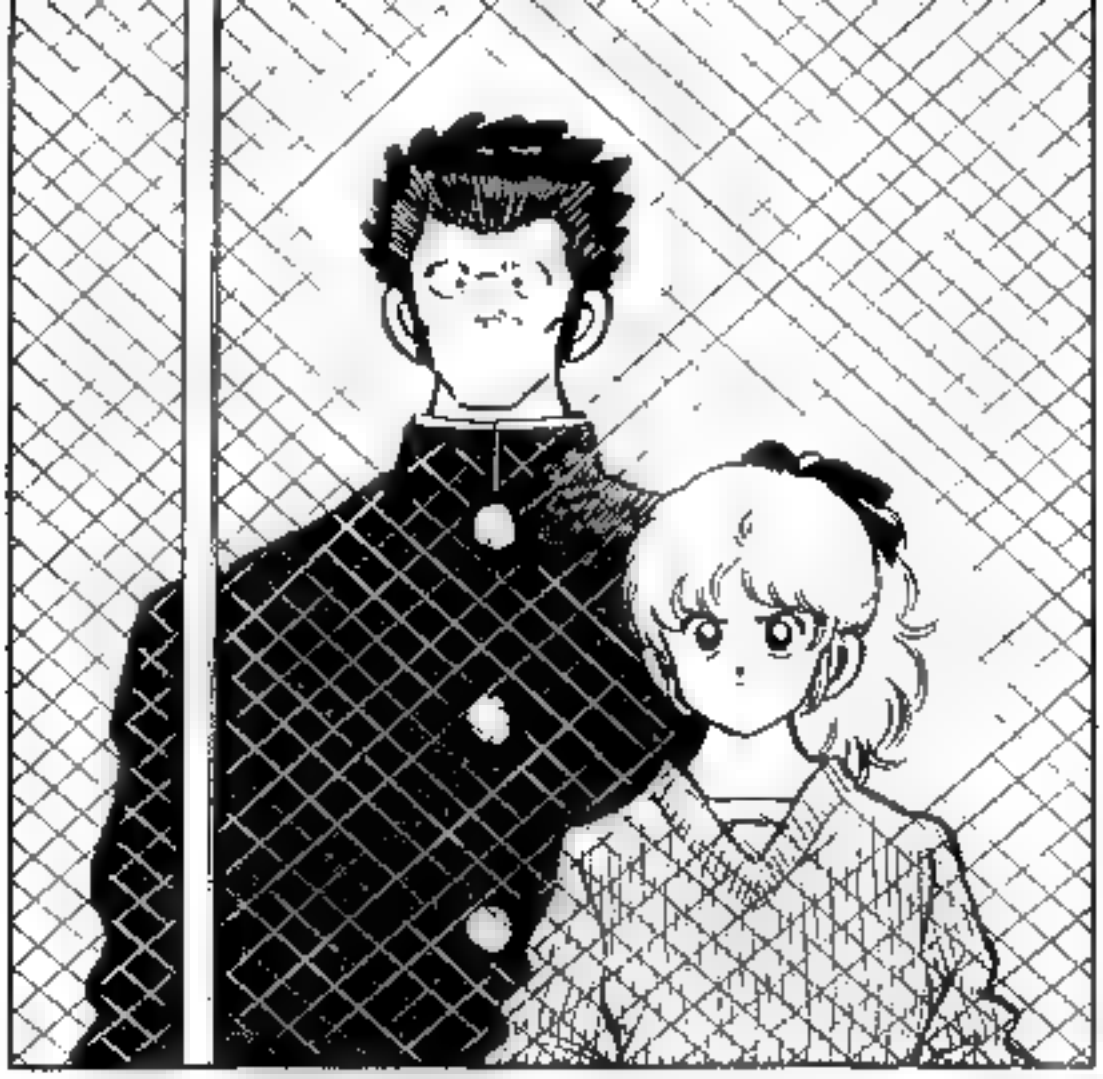
THAT'S AWESOME.

TERRIFIC!

ALL RIGHT, YOSHIDA.

PLOD

PLOD



HEY,
DIMWIT.

AH,
HELLO.

ARE YOU THAT SCARED OF BEING HIT!?
IS THAT UNIFORM NUMBER A BLUFF?

HUH?

I MADE HIM STRIKE OUT.

AH, SORRY ...

MEI SEI

WHY AREN'T YOU BATTLING ONIICHAN?

IT'S NOT REALLY THAT I RAN AWAY.

YOU DON'T SEEM LIKE A GUY WHO RUNS AWAY!!

AS A COACH, NATU-RALLY ...

SO, AT THAT TIME, YOU ALSO SEND TO THE MOUND THE PITCHER IN THE BEST SHAPE...

WHEN PLAYING A GAME, IT'S GOOD FORM TO CHOOSE THE BEST PLAYERS..

MEI SEI

THEN, WHY AREN'T YOU PITCH-ING!?

YOU'RE THE ACE, AREN'T YOU?

WELL, Y'SEE ...

I'M YOSHIDA TAKESHI, 2ND-YEAR STUDENT.

YOU SAW IT, RIGHT? MEISEI'S PITCHER, WHO JUST NOW STRUCK OUT NITTA AKIO.

EH?

WHAT ARE YOU?

WHAT AN ANNOYING CHATTER-BOX...

IT'S JUST THAT ONIICHAN WASN'T INTER-ESTED IN HIT-TING OFF YOU!

IT'S NOT THAT YOU STRUCK HIM OUT!

DUMMY ..

EH?

TO COME TO A PLACE LIKE THIS?

JEEZ, WHY DO YOU TH NK SUMI TECH WOULD BOTHER ...

...IS YOU, HESUGI TATSUYA!

...THE ONE WHO MAKES ONIICHAN WOR-RIED ABOUT PLAYING .

I DON'T KNOW IT FOR SURE, BUT. .

IF YOU DON'T PITCH, THIS GAME HAS NO MEANING.

BETWEEN SUMI TECH AND MEISEI, WE KNOW FROM THE START WHAT THE OUTCOME WILL BE.

THE ONLY OBJECT OF THIS GAME IS HAVING ONIICHAN HIT YOUR PITCH.

CUT THE CRAP!

SFX: <CRASHHH>

NITTA IS ALSO JUST ONE PLAYER AMONG 9!

A GAME'S A GAME! ONE TEAM VERSUS ANOTHER!!

WHAT KIND OF FAMOUS SCHOOL AND VETERAN TEAM IS SUMI TECH KNOWN FOR!?

'CAUSE A LOSS IS A LOSS!

PUTTING OTHERS OUT AND GIVING A WEAK EFFORT TO DO THAT IS SELFISHNESS...

HUH?

.....

MEI SEI

UESUGI-KUN.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? IT'S YOUR TURN AT BAT.

MEI

BACK TO BACK STRIKE-OUTS!!

WHAT ABOUT THE FIRST AND SECOND BATTERS?

HMPH

1

MEI SEI

SUMI TECH HAS A FINE PITCHER.

AS I MIGHT HAVE EX-PECTED,

IT'S 'CAUSE YOU TALK FRIVOLOUSLY ABOUT NEEDLESS THINGS.

EVEN HE WANTS TO PITCH TO NITTA.

WHIRR

WHIRR

HE GETS MAD QUITE EASILY, HM.

GRRR

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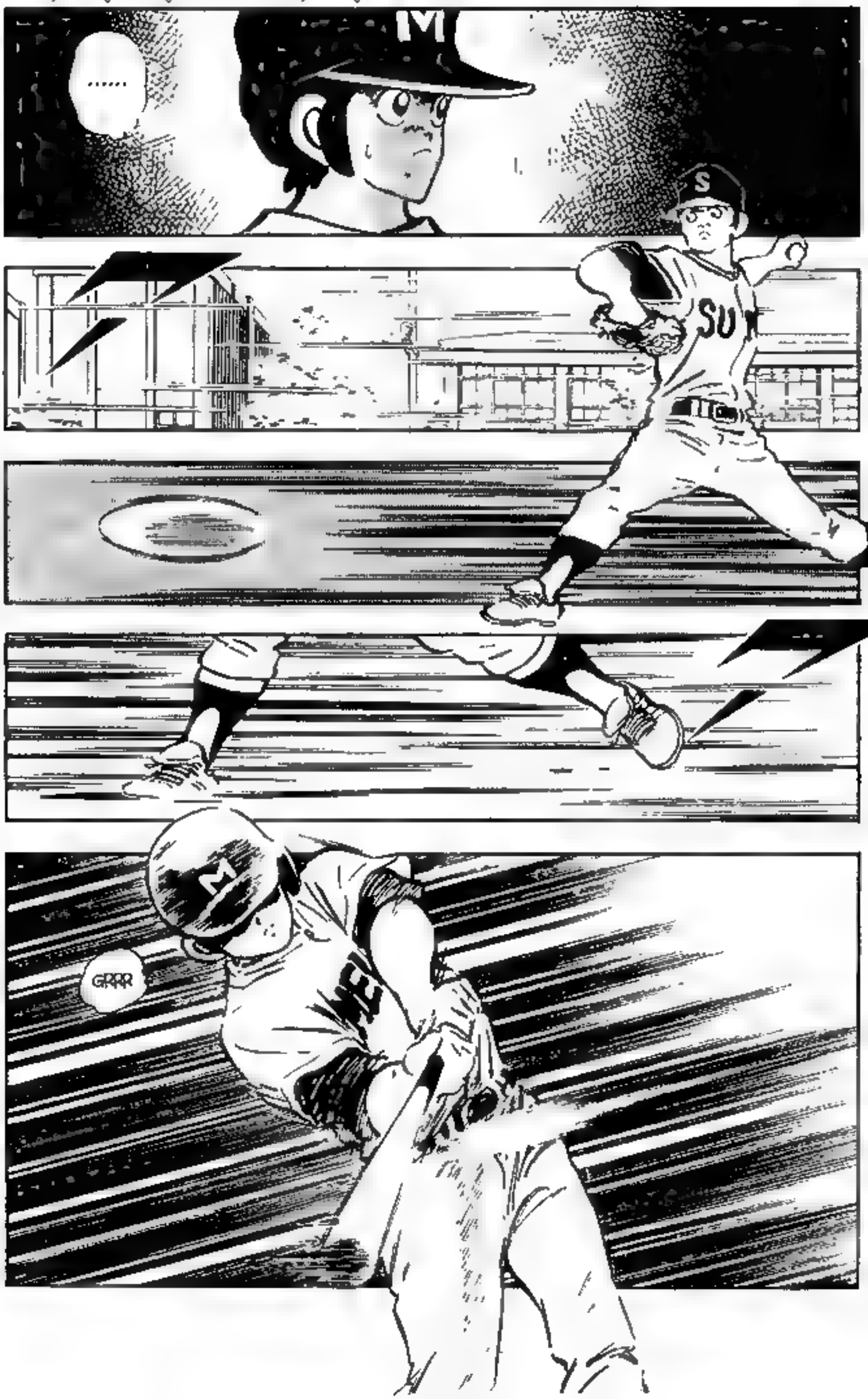

SFX: <CLINNNK>

ALL RIGHT... A DOUBLE!

GEH!

HE'S ALSO ROUNDING 2ND!?

THAT'S RECKLESS!

Let Me Have a Shot at Pitching

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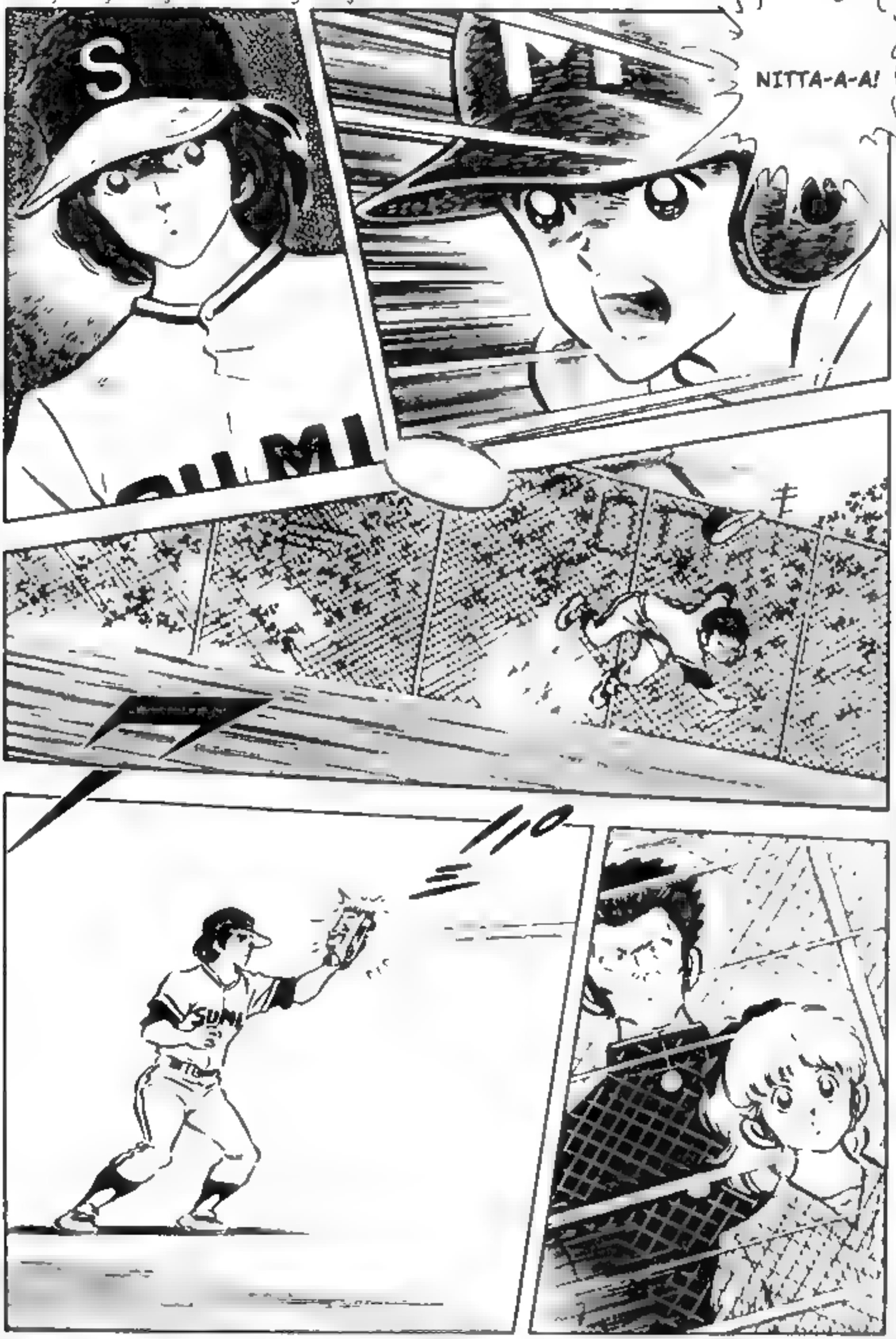


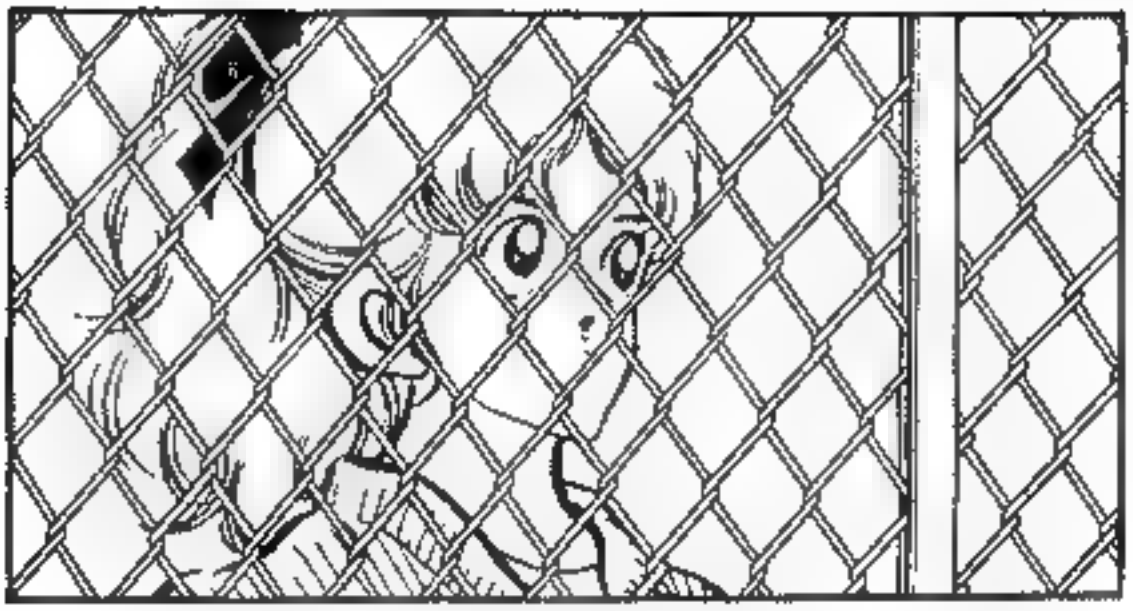
SAFE!

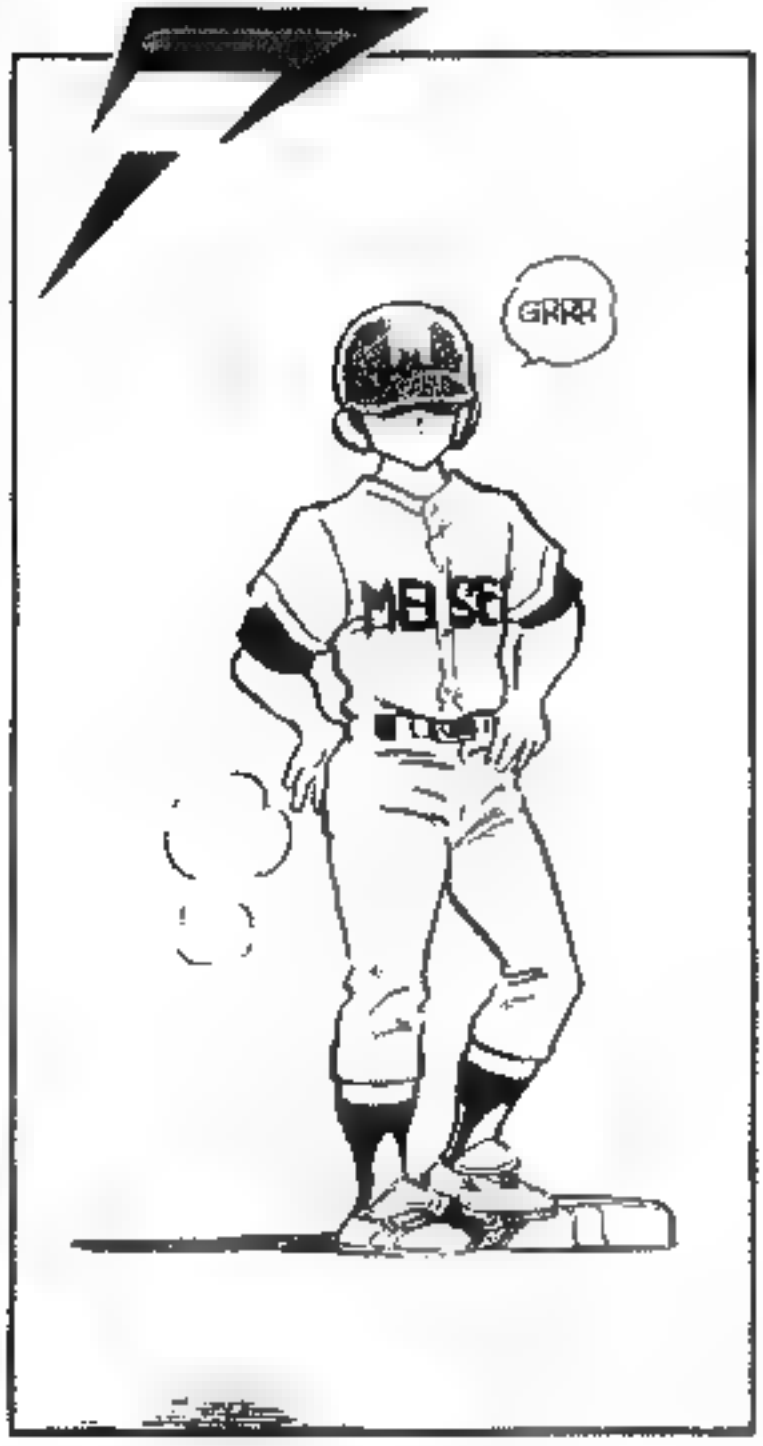
A DOUBLE, A DOUBLE

WHAT'S HE DOING?

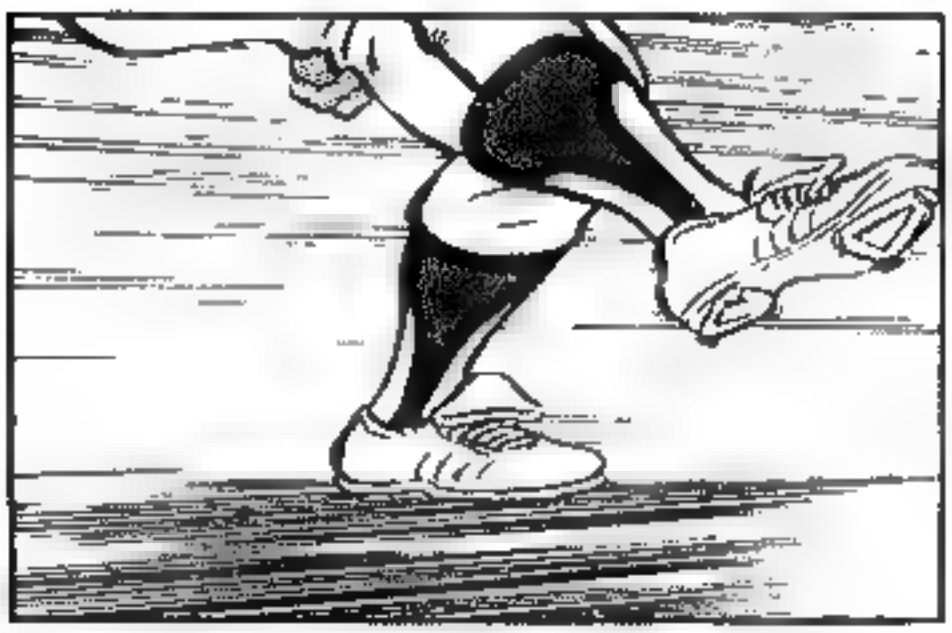
HMPH

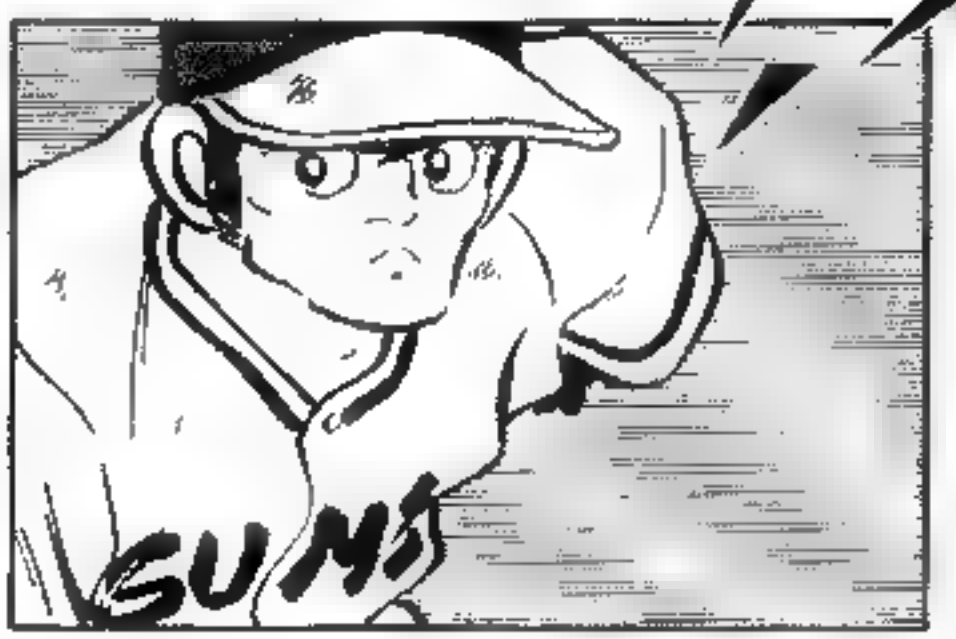
MEI SEI





SFX: <WHIRR WHIRR>





STRIKE!

MEI SE

SU MI

THAT UESUGI.

HE NA LED A PITCH LIKE THAT, HUH?

STRIKE!

SAFE!

.IS YOSHIDA-KUN

BE-CAUSE OF RECKLESS BASE-RUNNING, THE PITCHER

IF HE GETS INJURED OR SOME-THING...

MEI

THAT DUMMY

HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO SAY IT BEFORE HE GETS IT?

RUN-NING

N CE...

DID YOU WANT ME FOR SOMETHING?

DO YOU INTEND TO MAKE ME PLAY R GHTFIELD ALL THE TIME?

WHAT WAS THAT STRIKE-OUT BACK THEN?

WHAT WAS THAT?

KNOCK OUT YOSH DA QU CKLY SO I CAN HAVE A SHOT AT PITCHING.

EVEN OUR ← NELP IS HAVING A PRETTY HARD TIME

HE'S A GOOD PITCHER!

DON'T PUT T SO S MPLY.

I HIT IT!

CRACK

IN ANY CASE, THERE'S NO AVOIDING IT IF YOU DON'T SWING THE BAT.

YOU STRUCK OUT ON THREE CALLED STRIKES.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

THEN THAT WOULD BE TRUE.

IF BASEBALL WERE A ONE-INNING GAME...

AWESOME, NITTA-SA-A-AN!

KYA!

GAH

I SAID WE WERE HAVING A HARD TIME;

NOT THAT WE CAN'T HIT!

DON'T BE IN SUCH A HURRY.

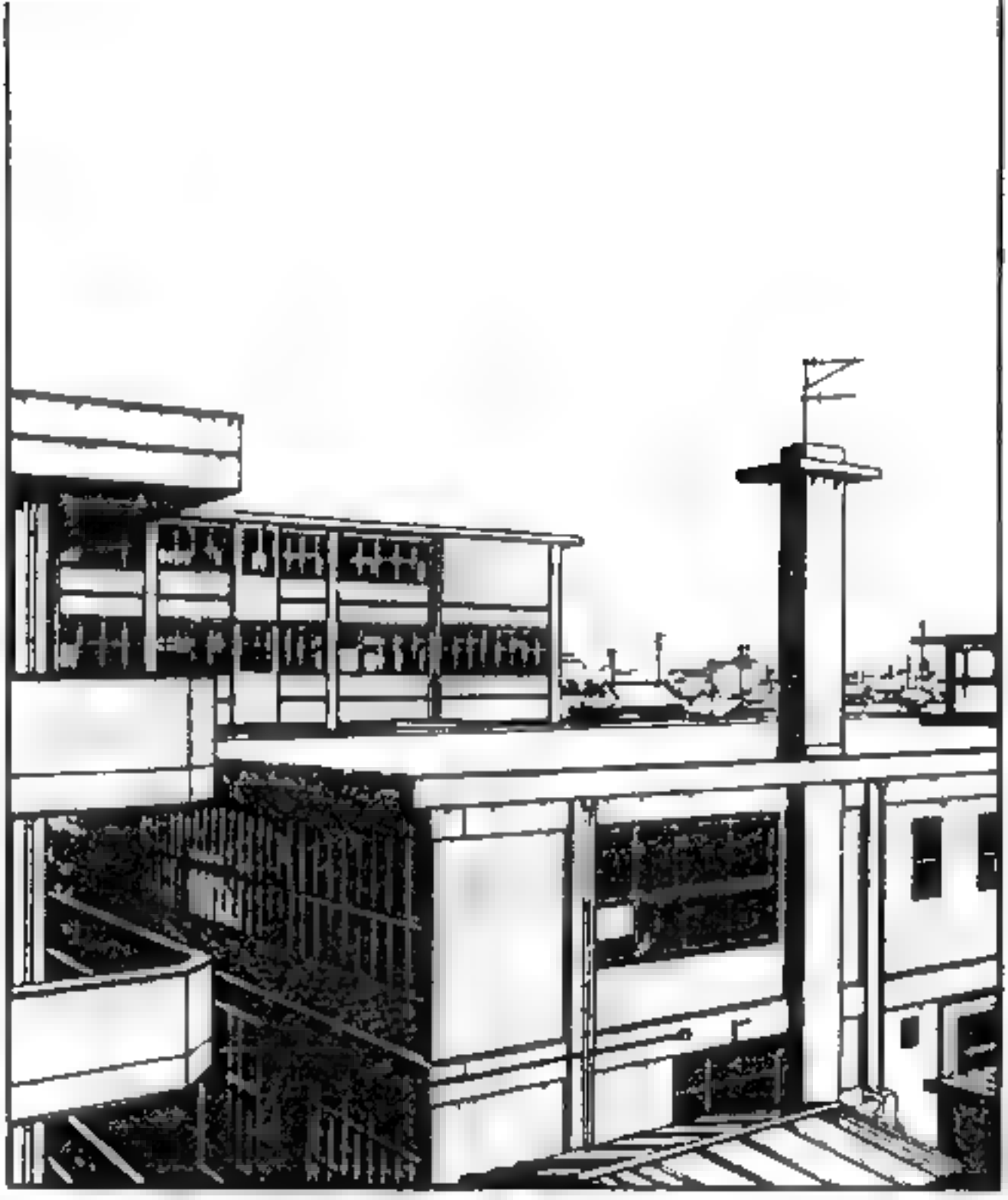
AS LONG AS HIS CURVEBALL ISN'T BETTER THAN SENAN'S NISHIMURA, HM?

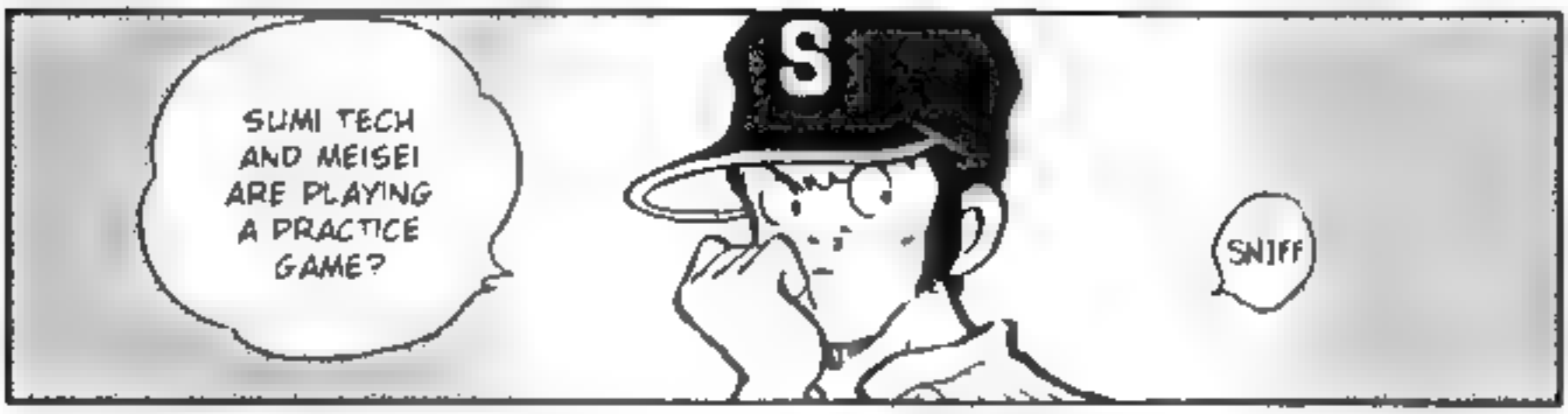
.....

THAT IDIOT NISH-MURA

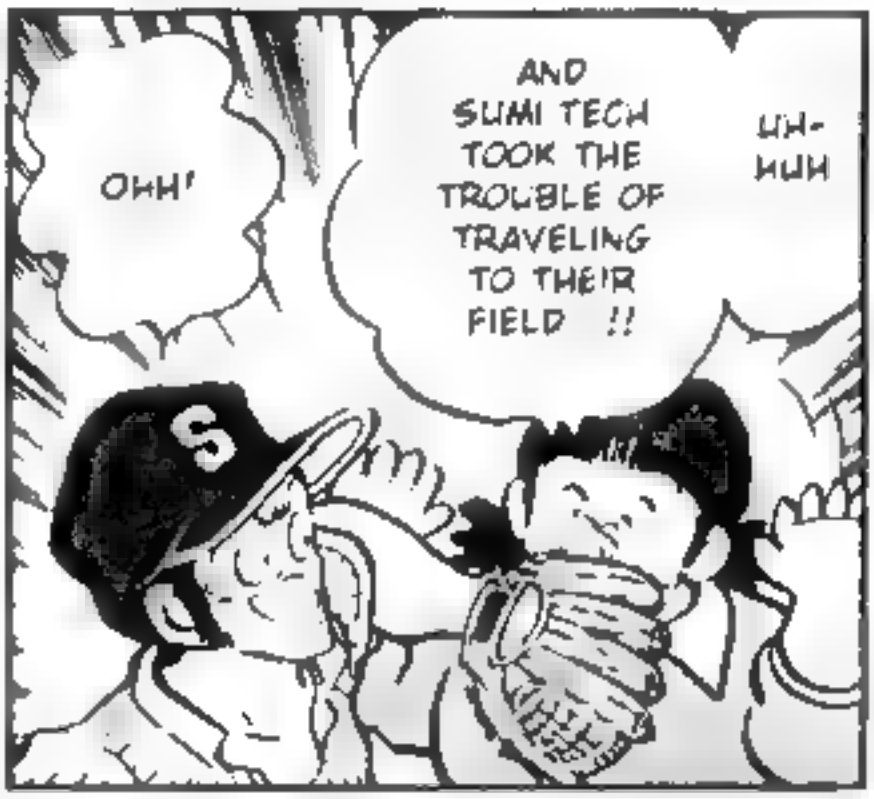
HM?

AHHH-
CHOO!




SUMI TECH AND MEISEI ARE PLAYING A PRACTICE GAME?
SNIFF

BUT IT'S TRUE.
IDIOT, DON'T SCARE ME.


OHH!
AND SUMI TECH TOOK THE TROUBLE OF TRAVELING TO THEIR FIELD !!
UH-HUH

WE'VE BEEN CHALLENG NG THEM FOR A LONG TIME!

TO A PRACTICE GAME!!

N TTA, YOU JERK.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Sumi Tech	0	0						
Meisei	0	0						

HuM.

HuM

110

OUT!

9

QUITE WELL?

HE'S DOING QUITE WELL, HM? YOSHIDA-KUN

EVEN THOUGH IT'S HIS FIRST APPEARANCE ON THE MOUND

LET ALONE, IF IT'S A CURVEBALL PITCHER, THEN JUST TO FEEL OUT HIS SKILL, ONE AT-BAT S...

UH-HUH

IT'S 'CAUSE A PITCHER HAS THE ADVANTAGE, NO MATTER WHAT, THE FIRST TIME THROUGH A LINEUP THAT'S SEEING HIM FOR THE FIRST TIME, HM?

BUT

THEY'RE TOUGH

OUR OPPONENT IS SUMI TECH, A SEMI-FINALIST AT KOUSHIEN!!

AH, I MEAN

UHH...

I'M SURE BY THE 9TH INNING, THERE'S A CHANCE

IT'S JUST THAT IT'S STILL TOO SOON TO BE FEELING SECURE...

I'M NOT REALLY ..

AH, NO

...

ACK!

PLUCK

COACH, YOU'VE GOT A WHITE HAIR...

10

3

AHH! DAMN!

YOU IDIOT

CLANK

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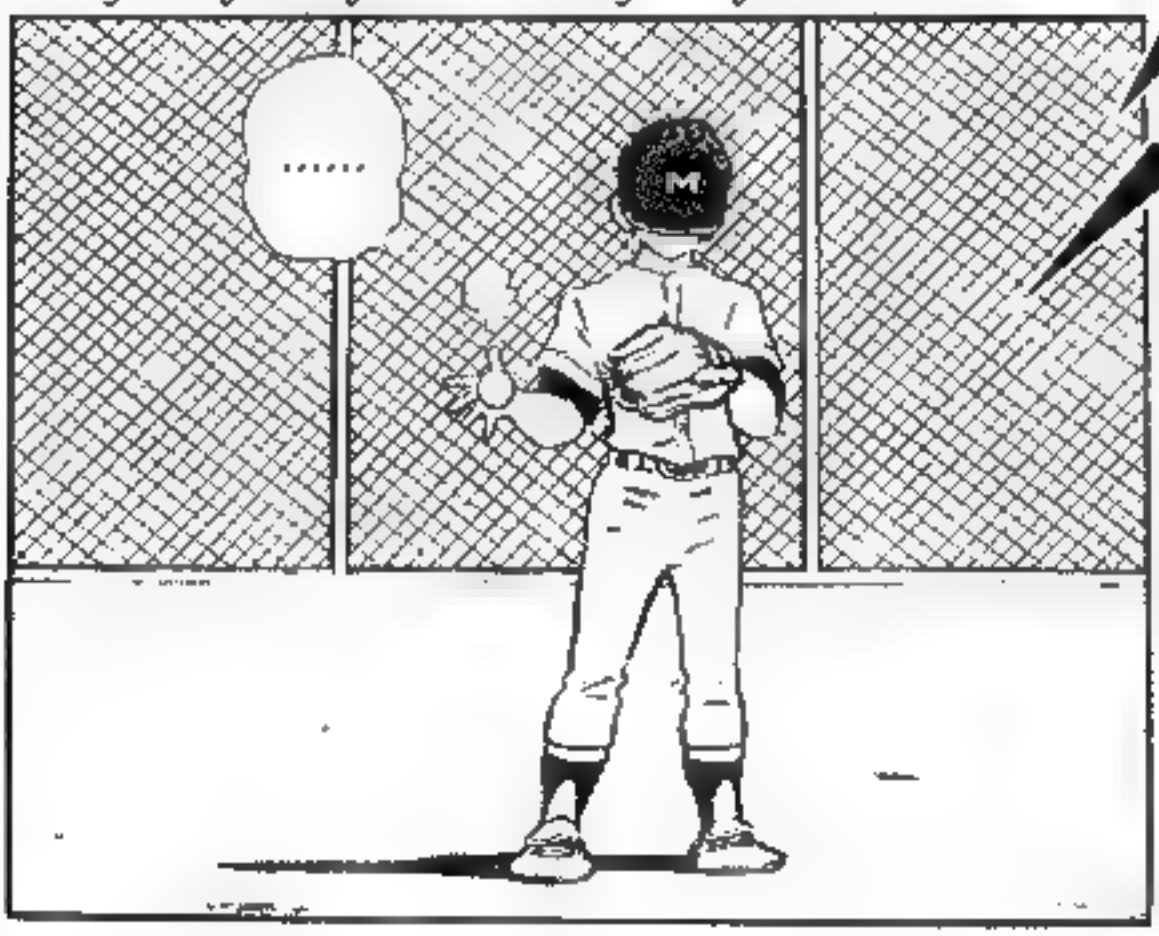
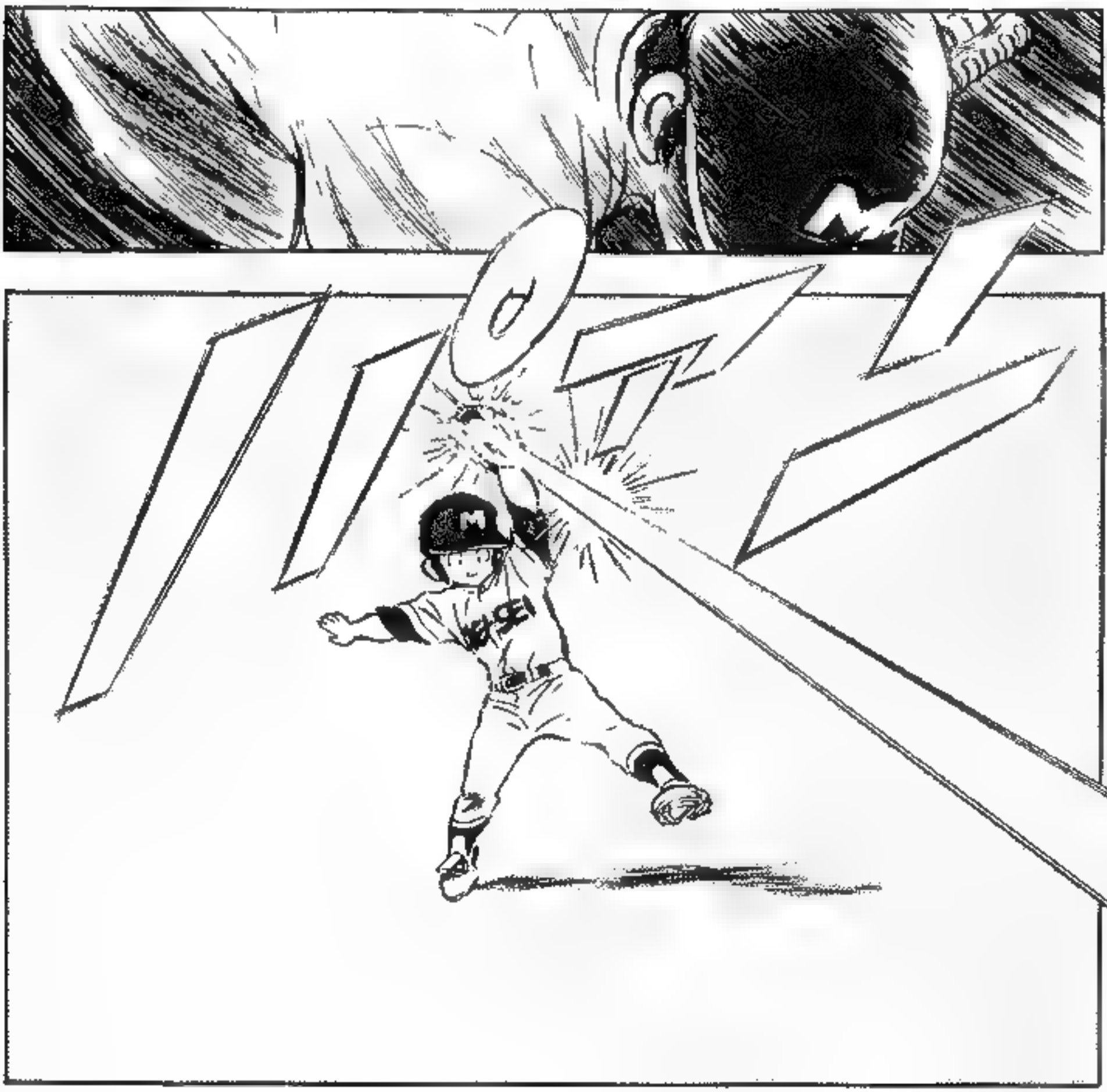
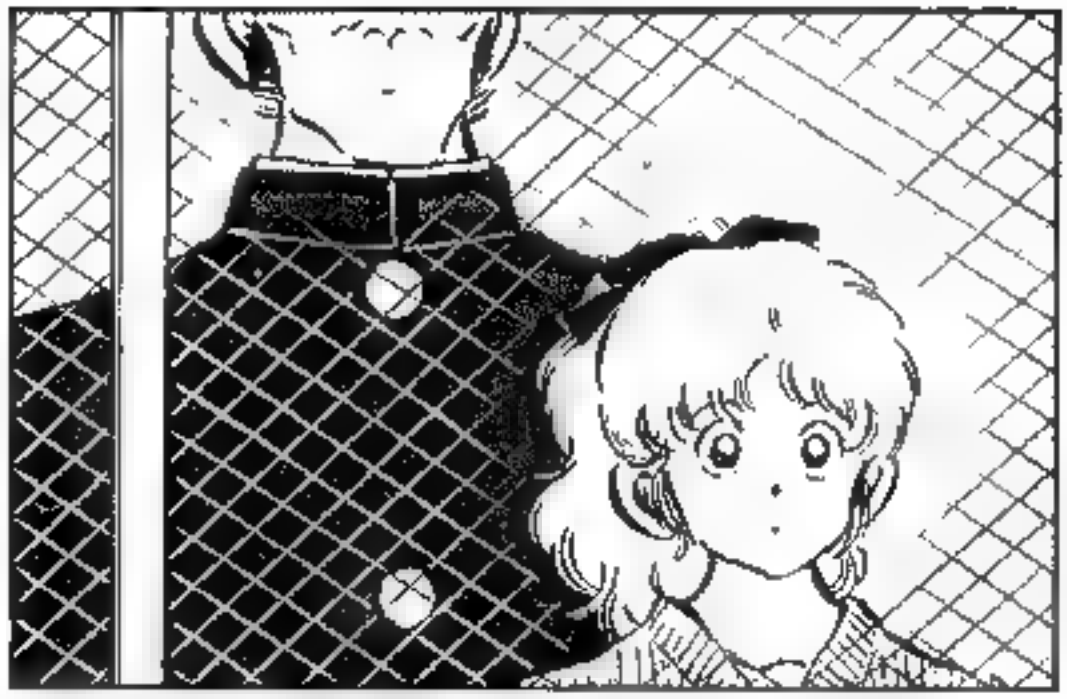
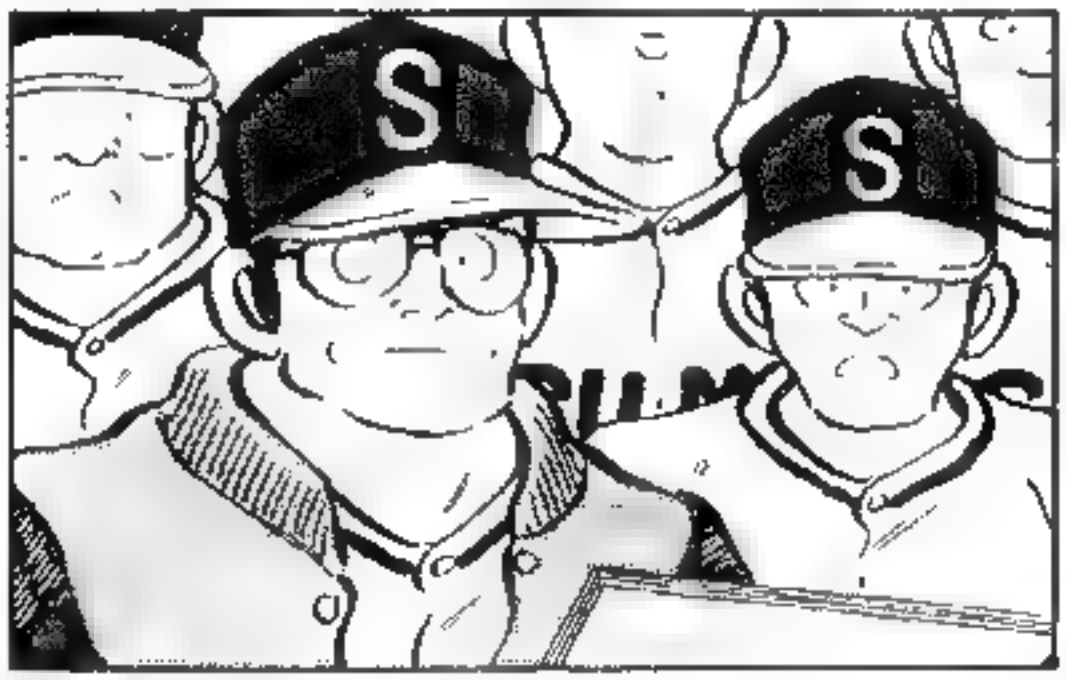




COACH

DID YOU SEE THAT!?





WHOLE-HEARTEDLY TO BASEBALL IN ORDER TO W N THIS GAME

I'VE DEVOTED MYSE-F...

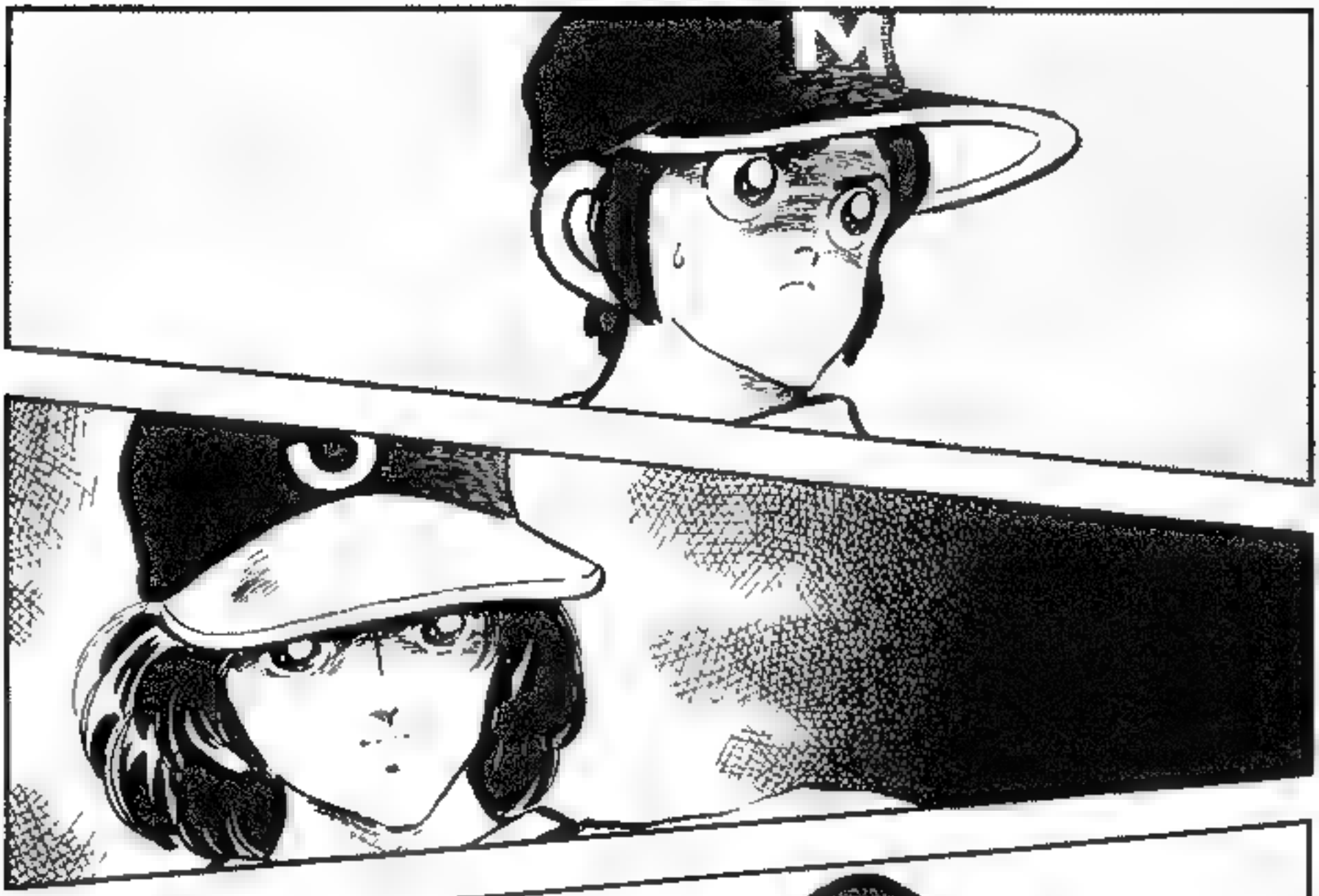
IT'S USE-LESS

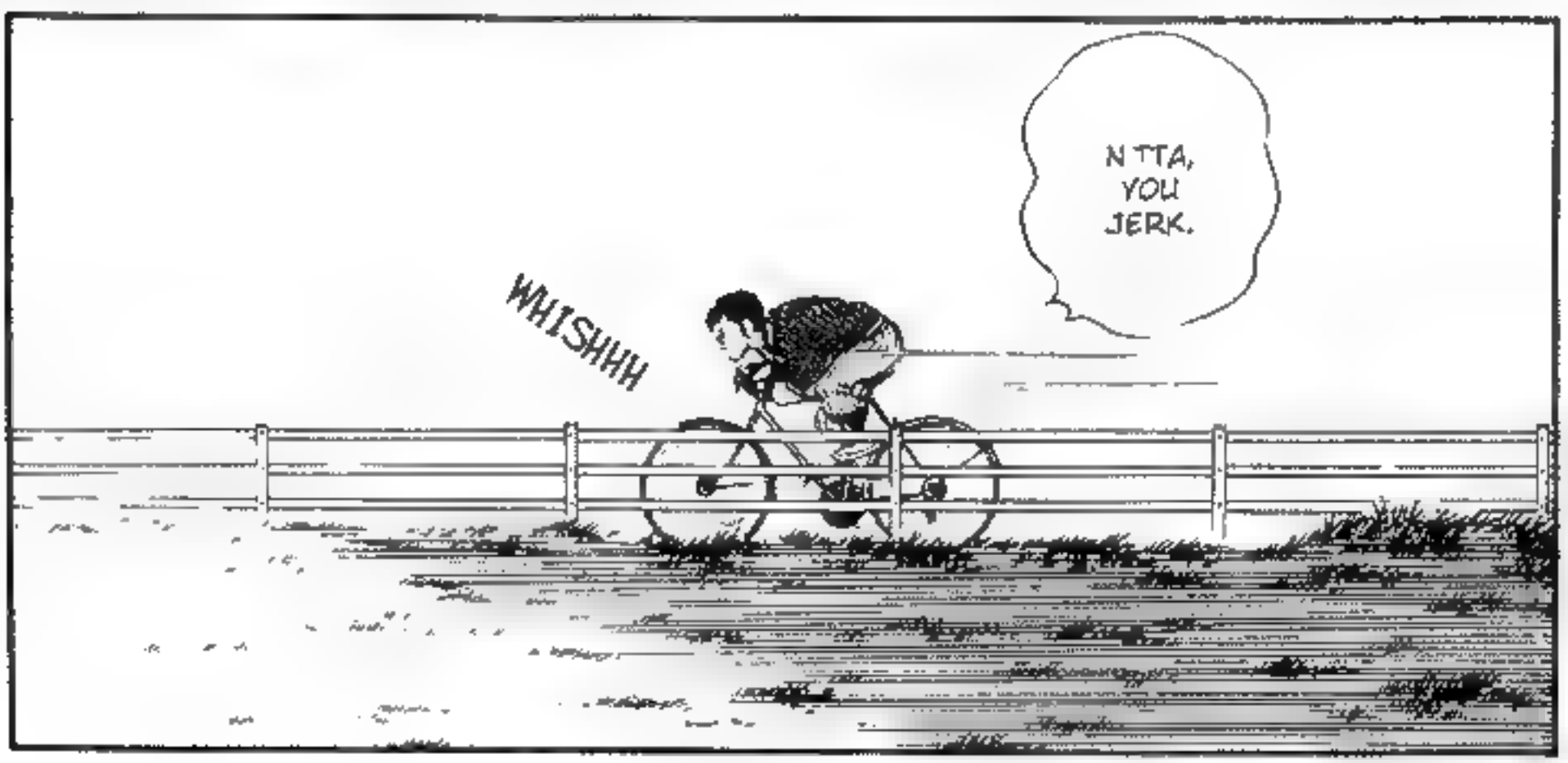
NO MATTER WHAT THE DEMON-STRATION ...

OO-WAH!

AHH!

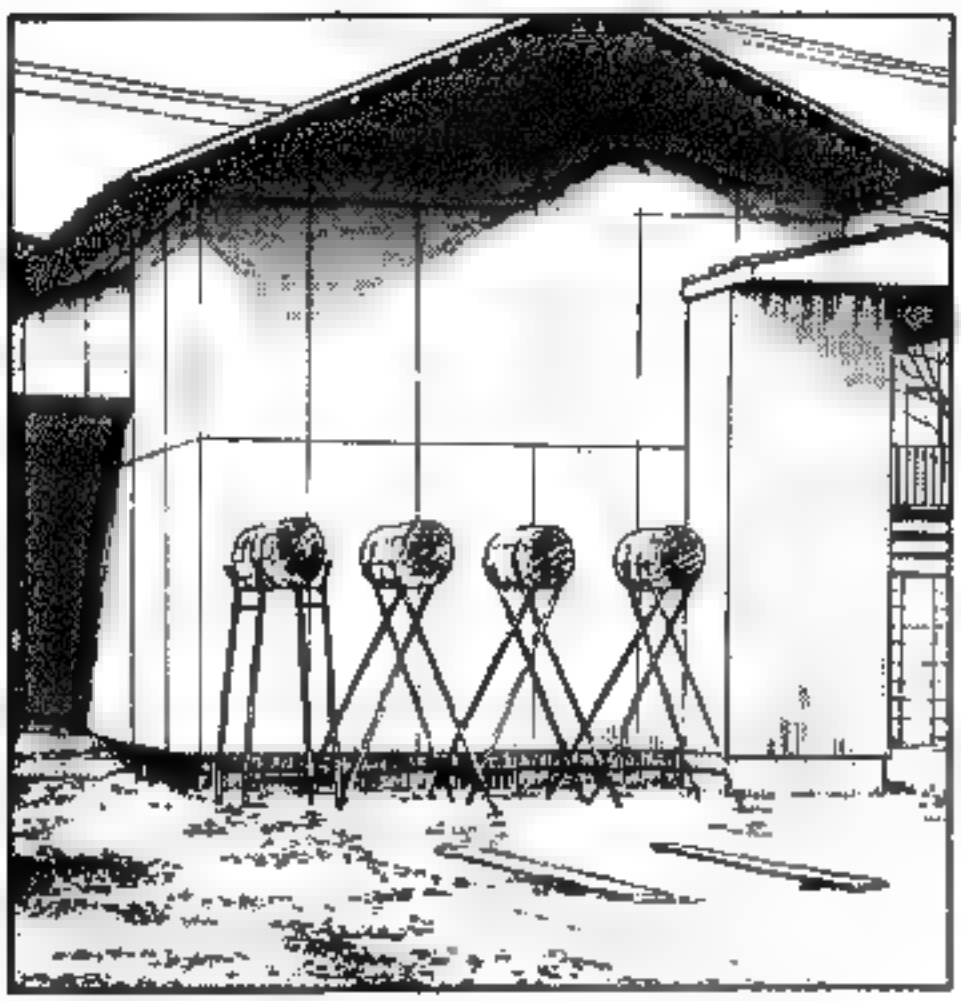
YOU HAVE SO MANY WHITE HAIRS.

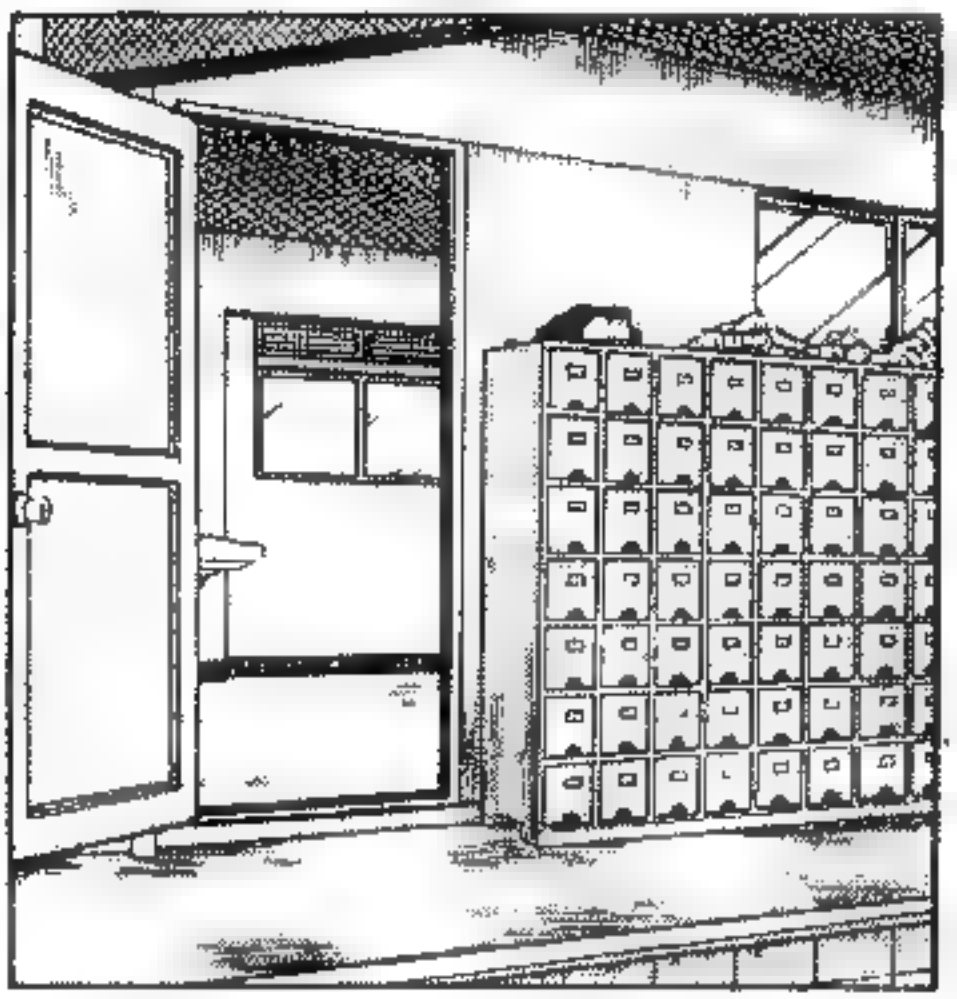

MEI SEI

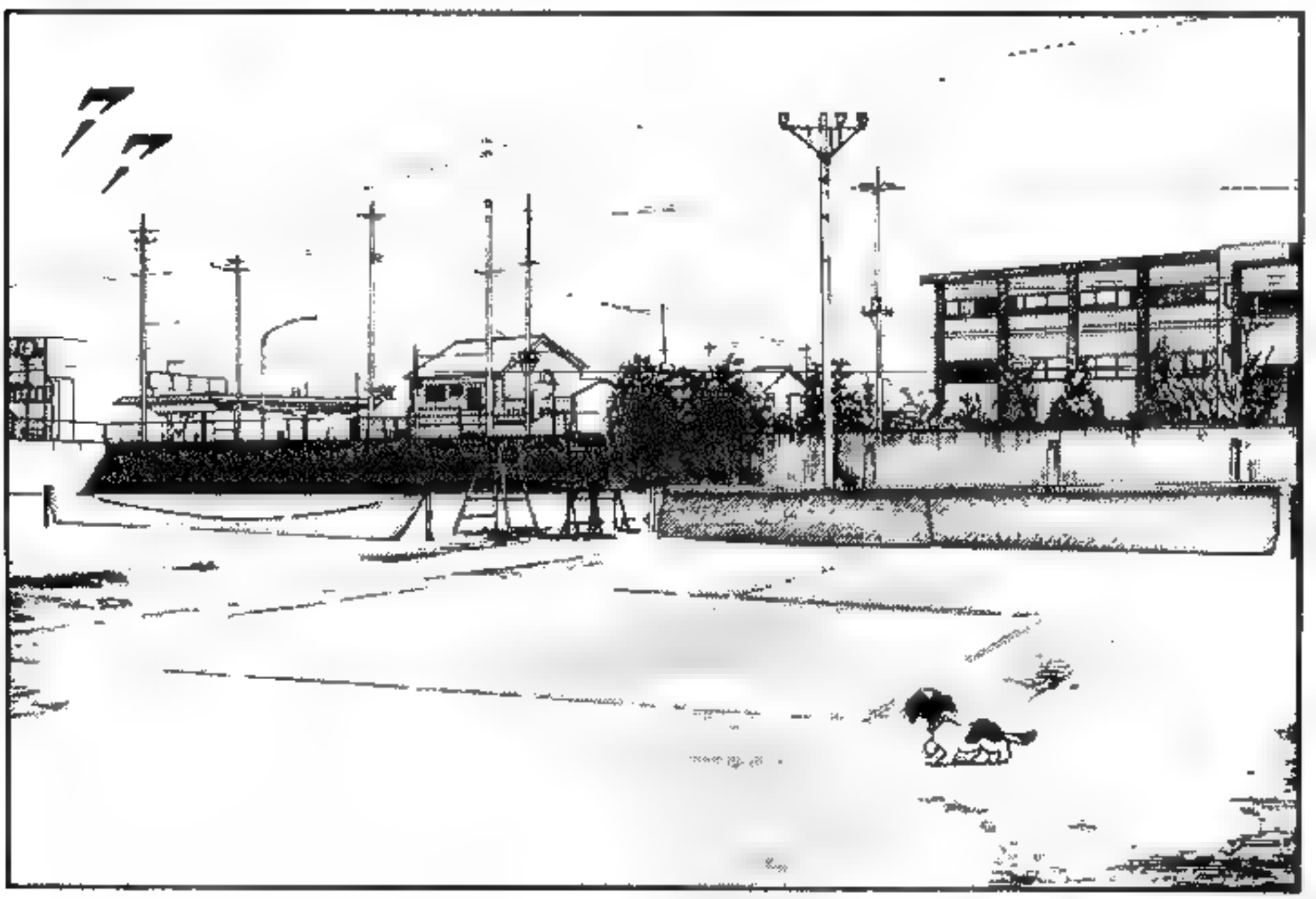

N TTA, YOU JERK.
WHISHH

All Right, Hm?

SIGN: <ME SEI HIGH SCHOOL>







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S
H
M
110

THREE OUTS CHANGE SIDES...
ALL RIGHT, HM?
M

"REALLY SOMETHING" SUMI TECH ON NO HITS

IF YOU'RE GONNA PRAISE ANYONE, PRAISE ME, WHO'S HOLDING DOWN THAT ..

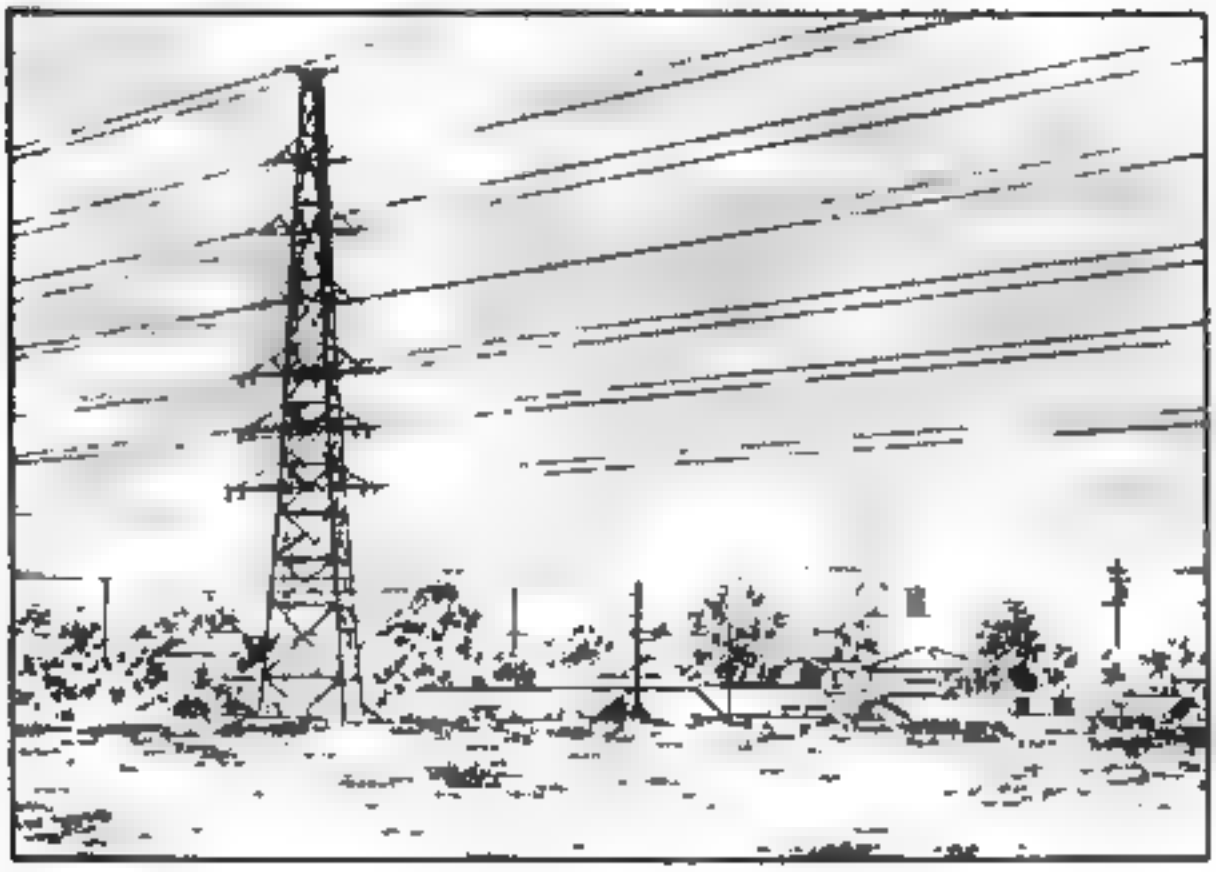
CONNECTING WELL OFF OF A DIFFICULT PITCH LIKE THAT.

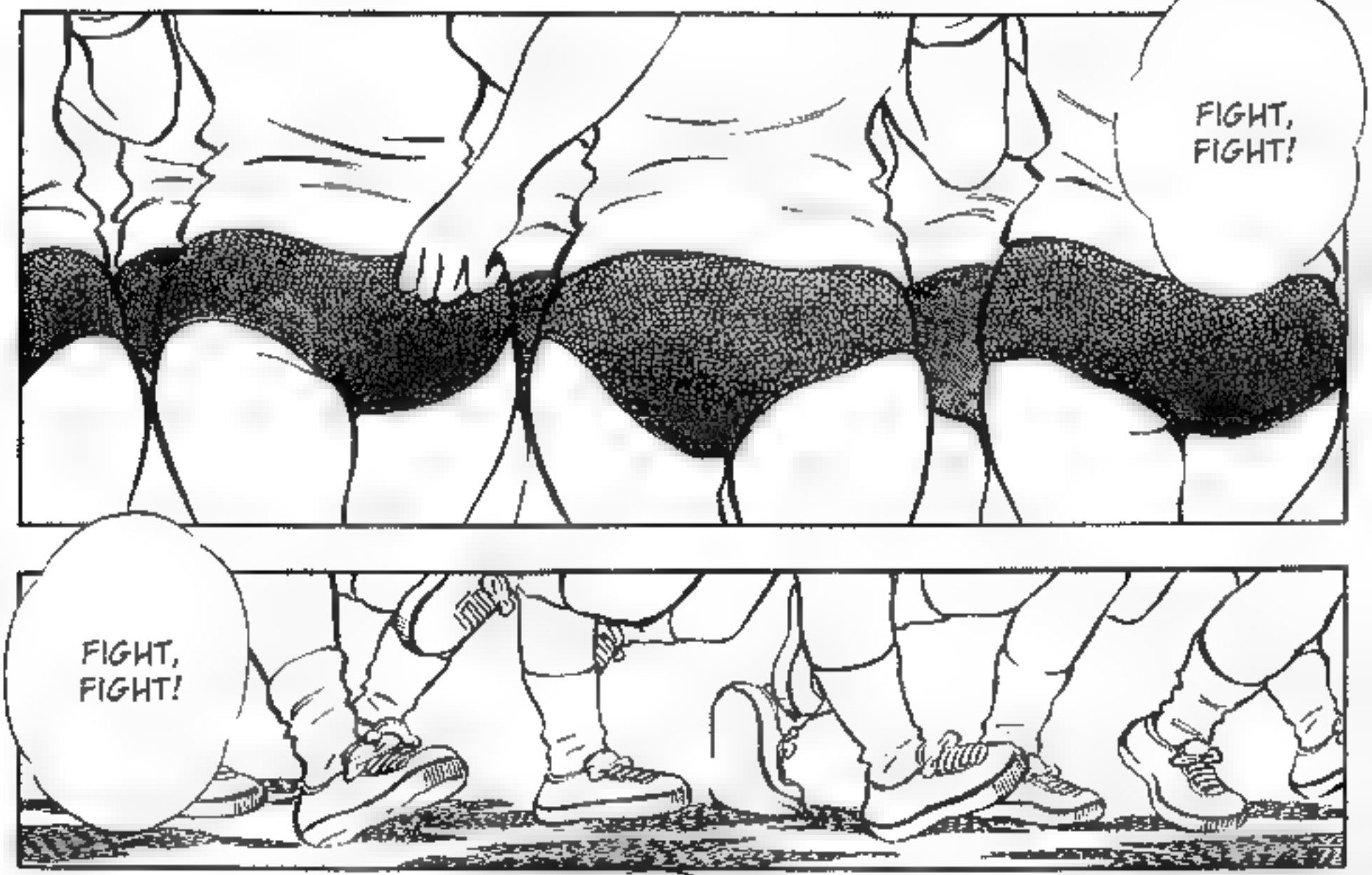
THEY'RE REALLY SOME-THING, HUH

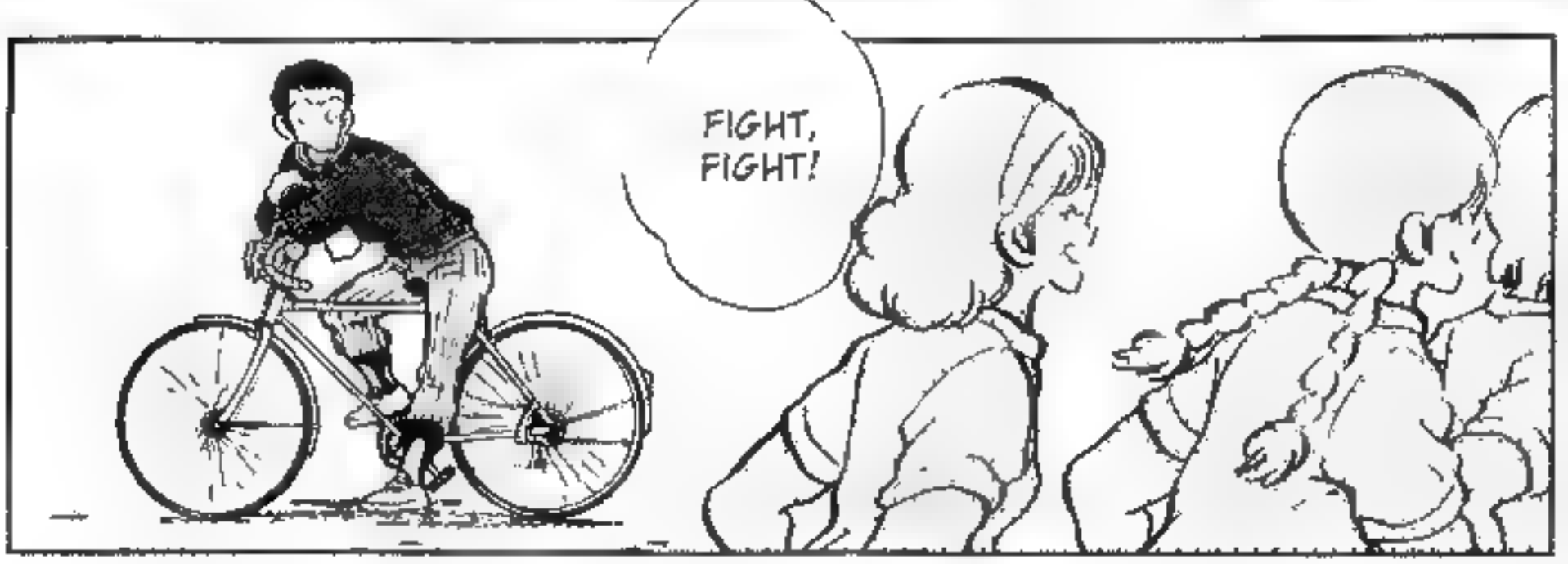
RIGHT ..

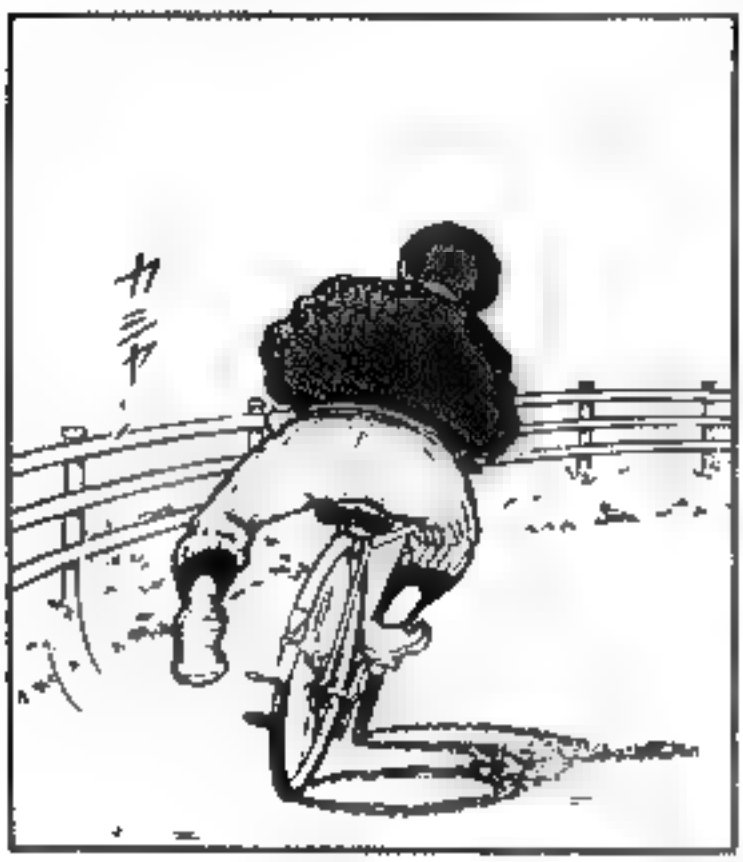
UESUGI?

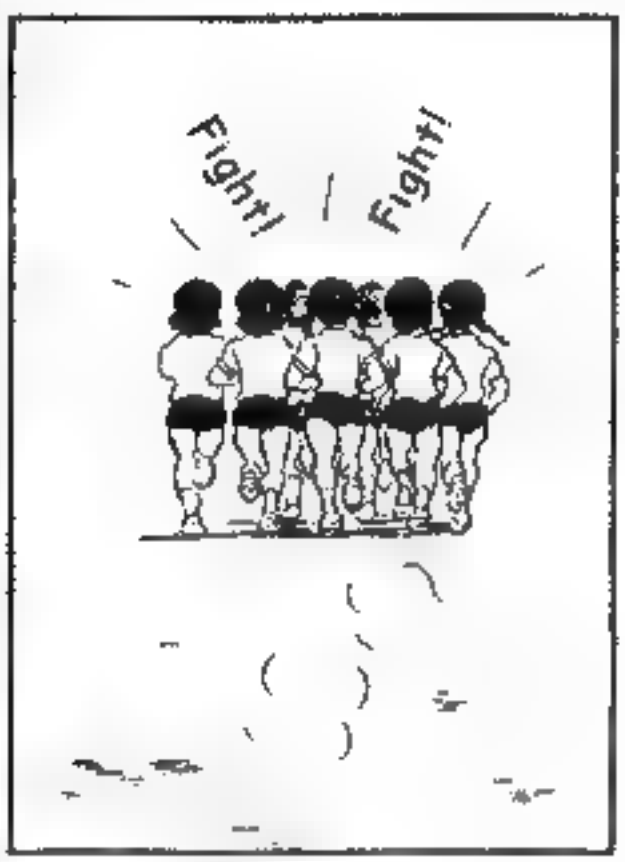
EXCELLENT, EXCELLENT.




FIGHT, FIGHT!
FIGHT, FIGHT!

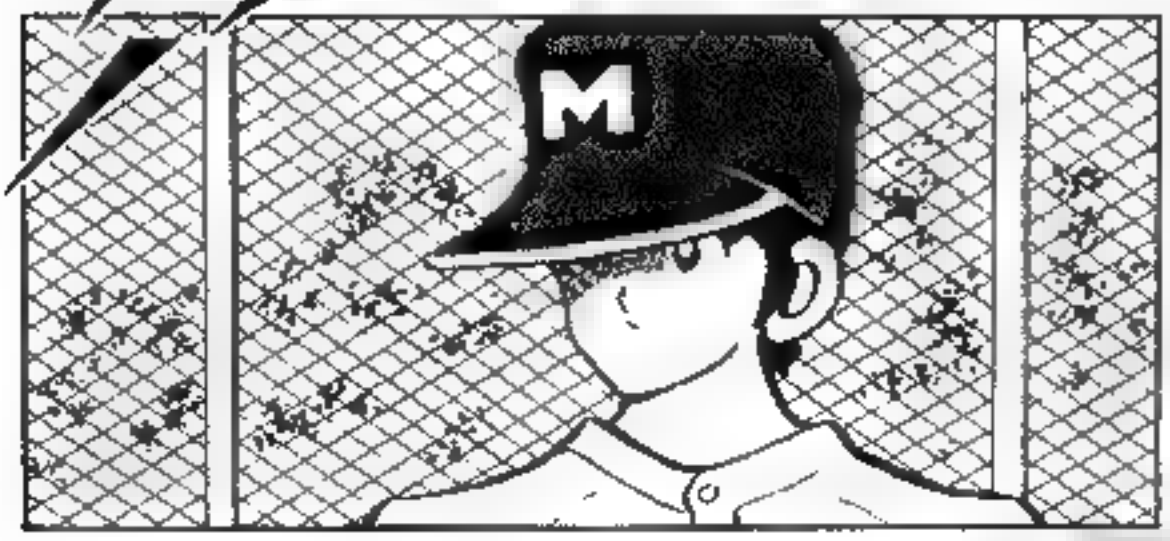

FIGHT, FIGHT!



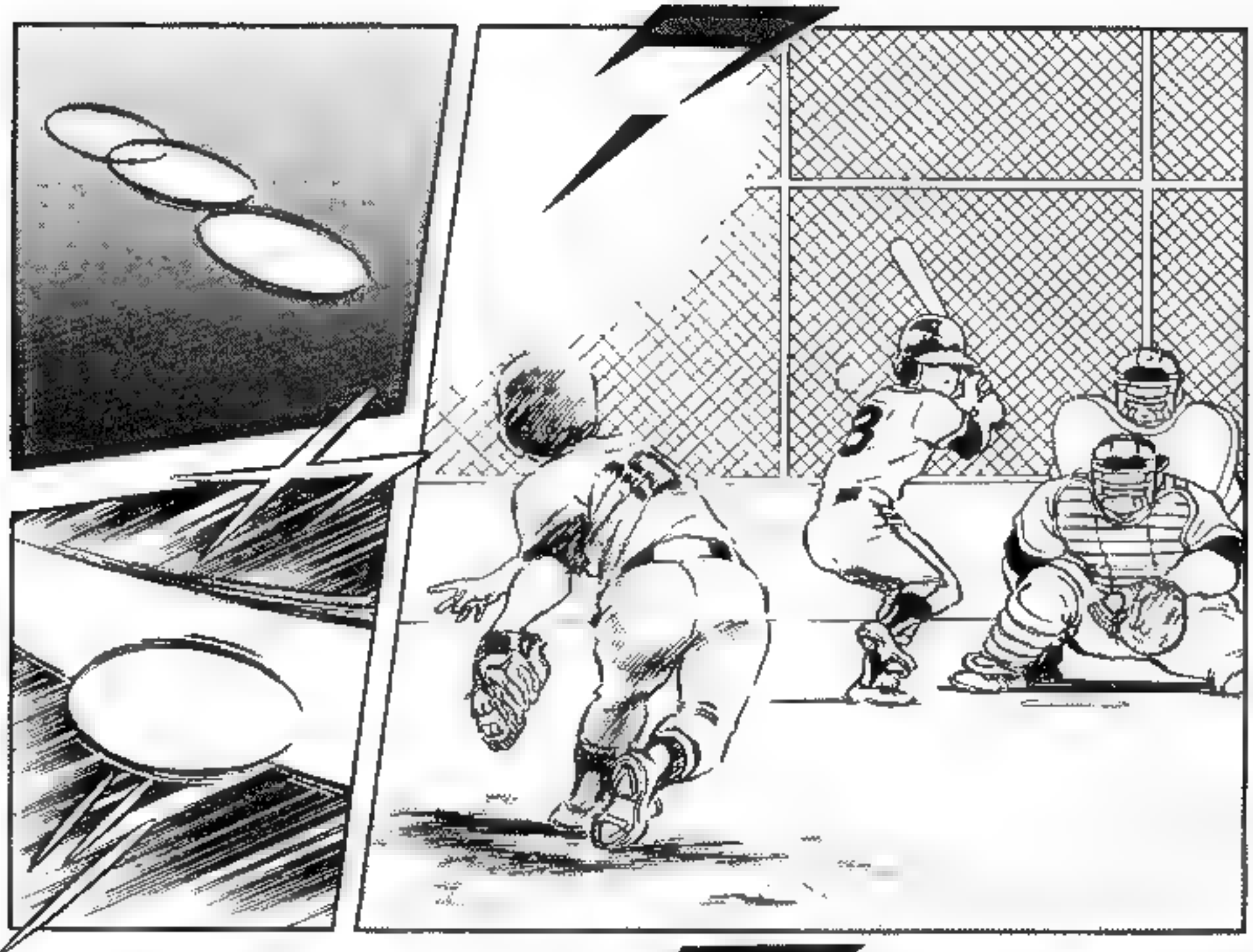

Fight!
Fight!

N TTA, YOU JERK.

ﾊｱｰ



TEAM	1	2	3	4
Sumi Tech	0	0	0	
Meisei	0	0	0	



PLEASE.

AH...
KOUCHOU-
SENSEI.

OH,
MY...
HOW
SUR-
PRIS NG.

HA
HA

YEAH
WEL...

YOU'RE
PLAYING AN
EVENLY-
MATCHED
GAME WITH
SUMI TECH
OVER
THERE.

HE
WASN'T
THAT WAY
FROM THE
START.

HE WAS
TRAINED
BY AN
EXCELLENT
COACH...

AHEM

I HAD NO
IDEA WE
HAD SUCH
A GOOD
PITCHER
HERE...

STRIKE!

AFTER ALL, THIS S THE FIRST GAME, FOR H.M...

OHHHH

IT'S JUST A LACK OF PLAYING TIME.

HOW COME HE'S WEAR NG NUMBER TEN?

SEEMS L KE YOU'RE MAK NG FUN OF YOUR OPPONENT...

THAT THE UNIFORM NUMBER OF A PITCHER WHO IS THROWING SO WELL AGAINST AN OPPONENT LIKE SUM TECH IS DOUBLE-DIGITS..

WELL, WELL

PLAYING TIME SHOULDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT, RIGHT?

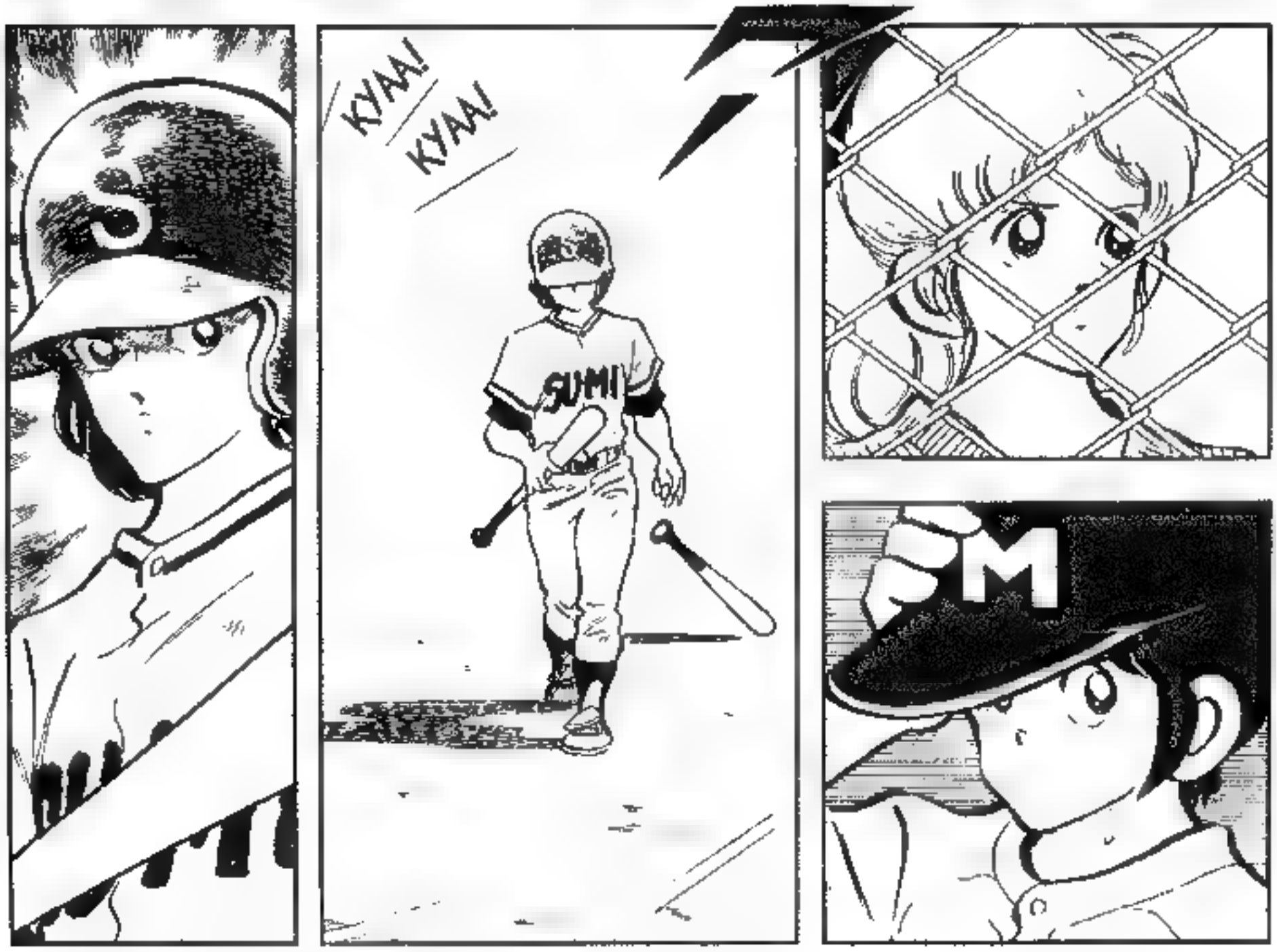
CLANK

'CAUSE IT'S DANGE-ROUS.

AH, PLEASE WATCH OUT FOR FOUL BALLS, 'KAY?

MB

STRIKE!
BATTER
OUT!
OHHHH!

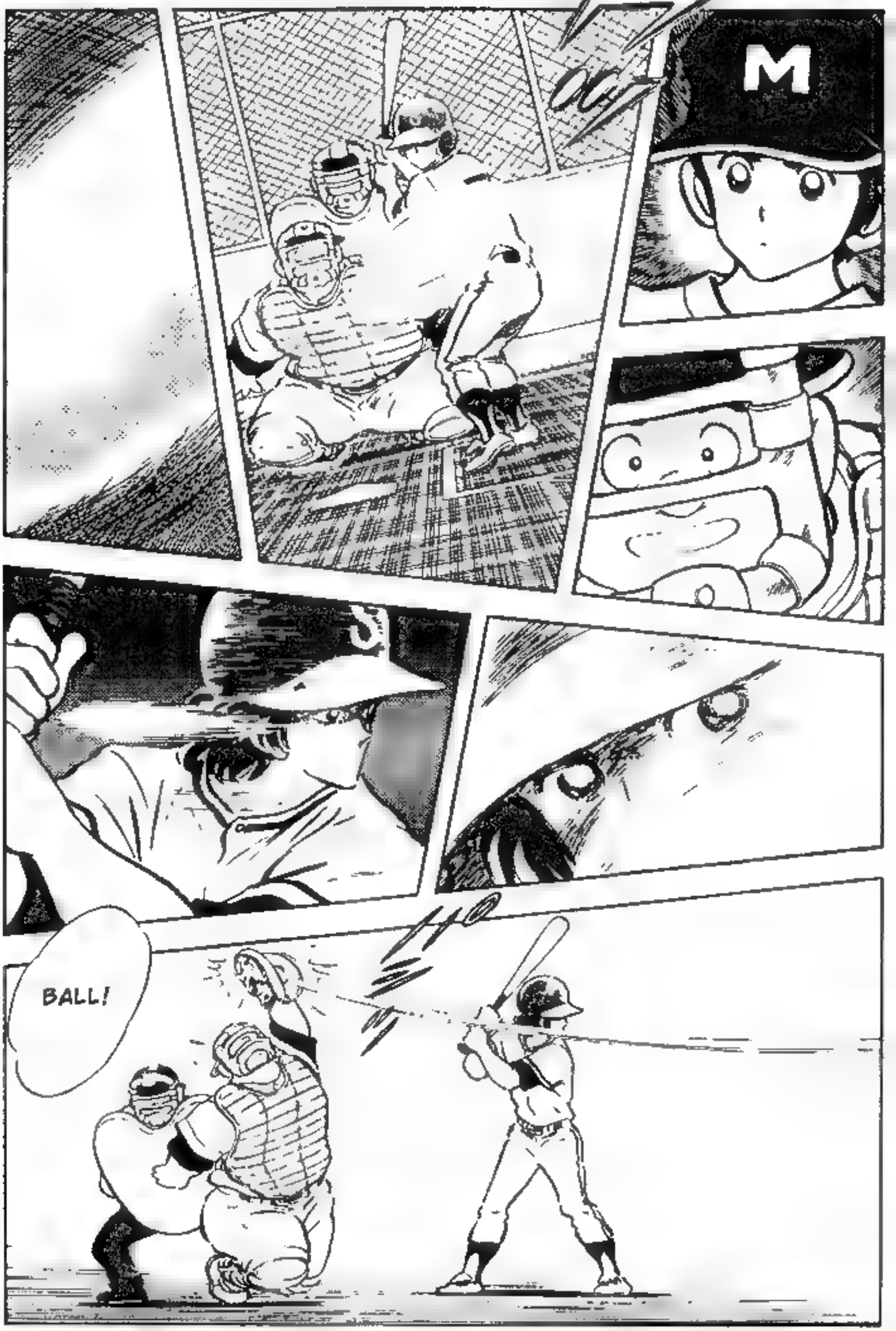

KYAA!
KYAA!
SUMI

THE SUPERLATIVE SUMI TECH STILL HAS NO HITS.

TWO OUTS, 4TH INNING ...

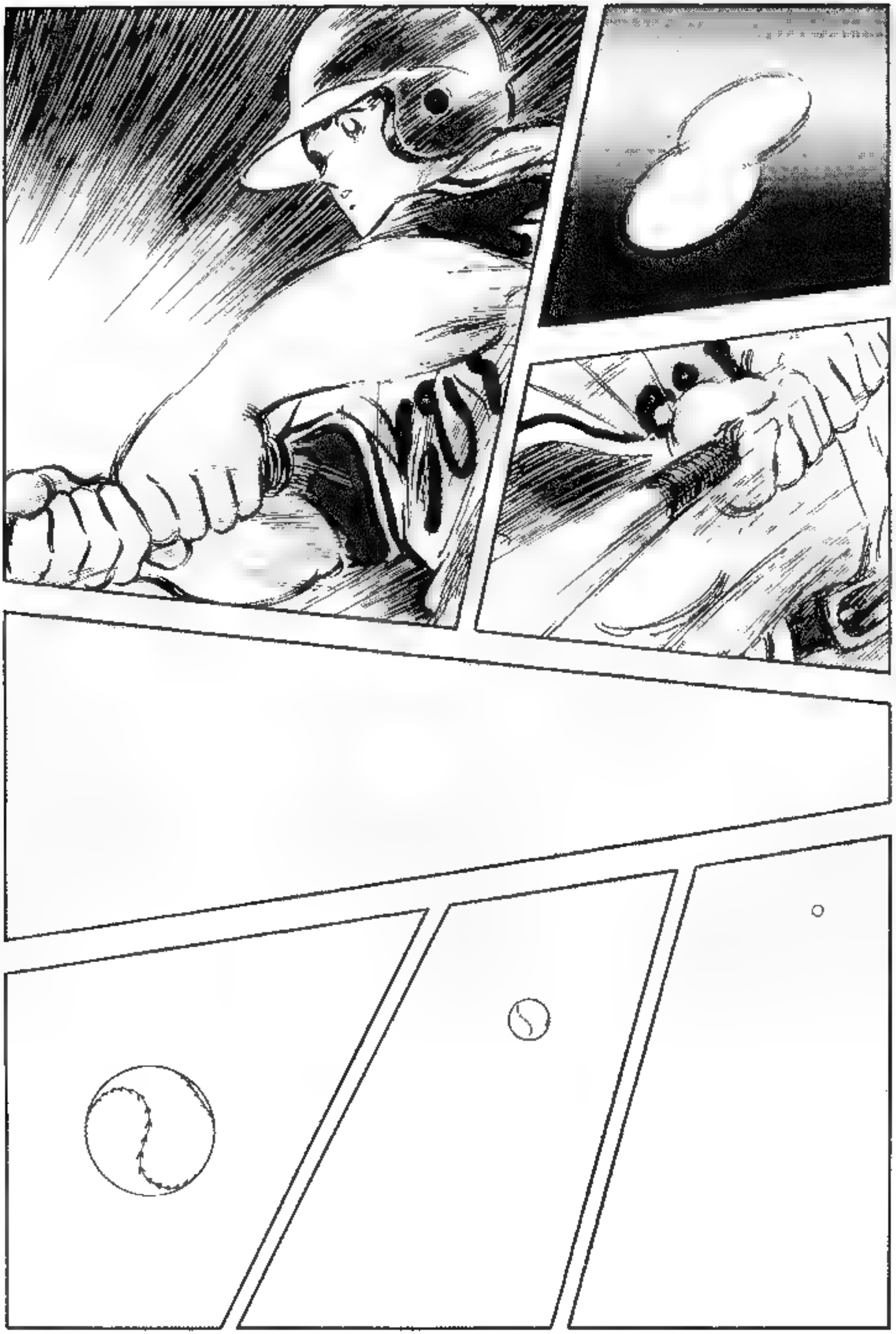
WHAT'LL YOU DO..

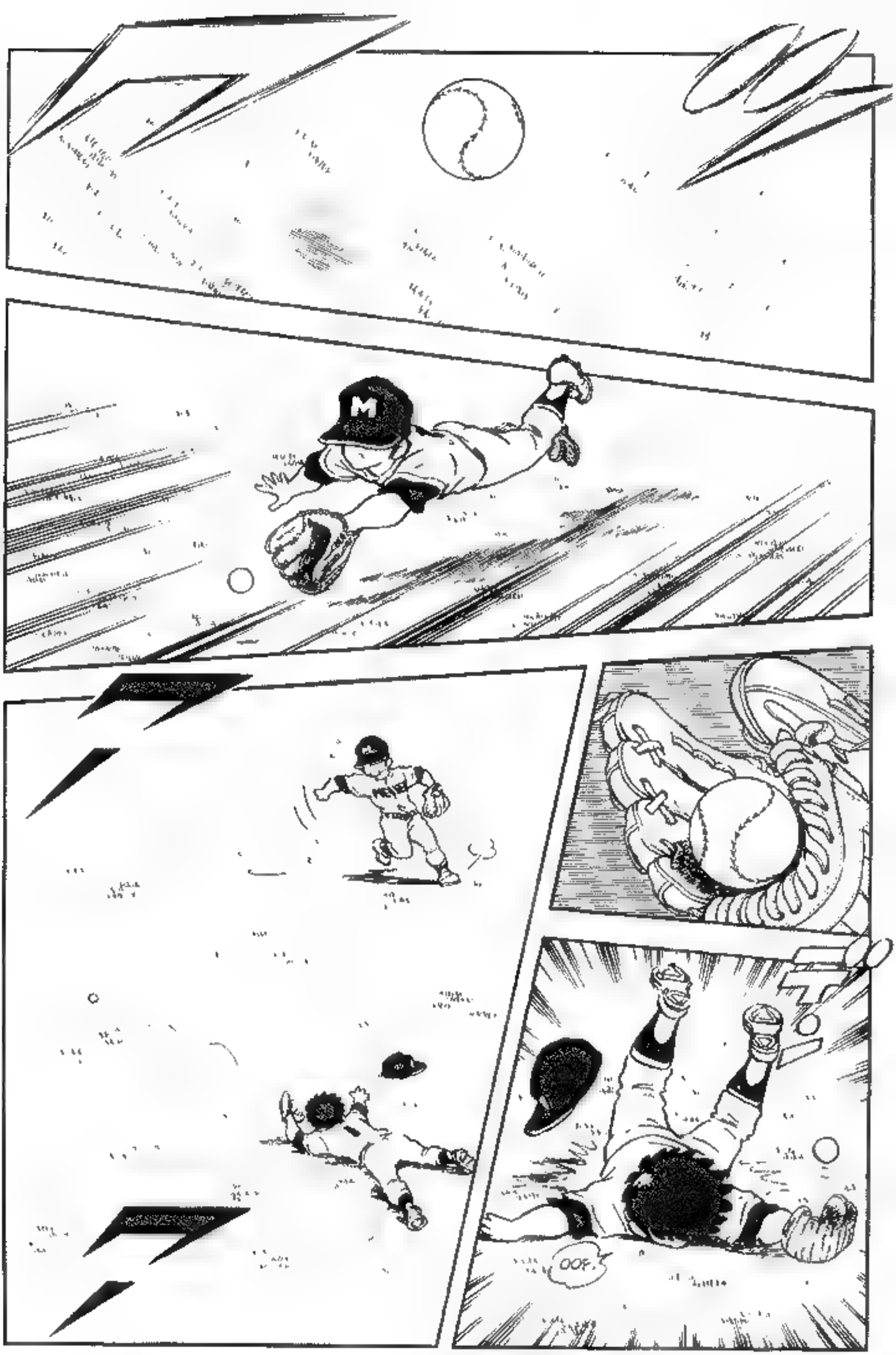
NITTA-SA-A-AN!?


M
BALL!

"YAMADA"-KUN

I KNOW QUITE WELL HOW CONFIDENT YOU ARE WITH YOUR CONTROL




M
OOF!

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CATCH IT PROPERLY!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

WHA-A-AT!?

H- HEY, ASAKURA

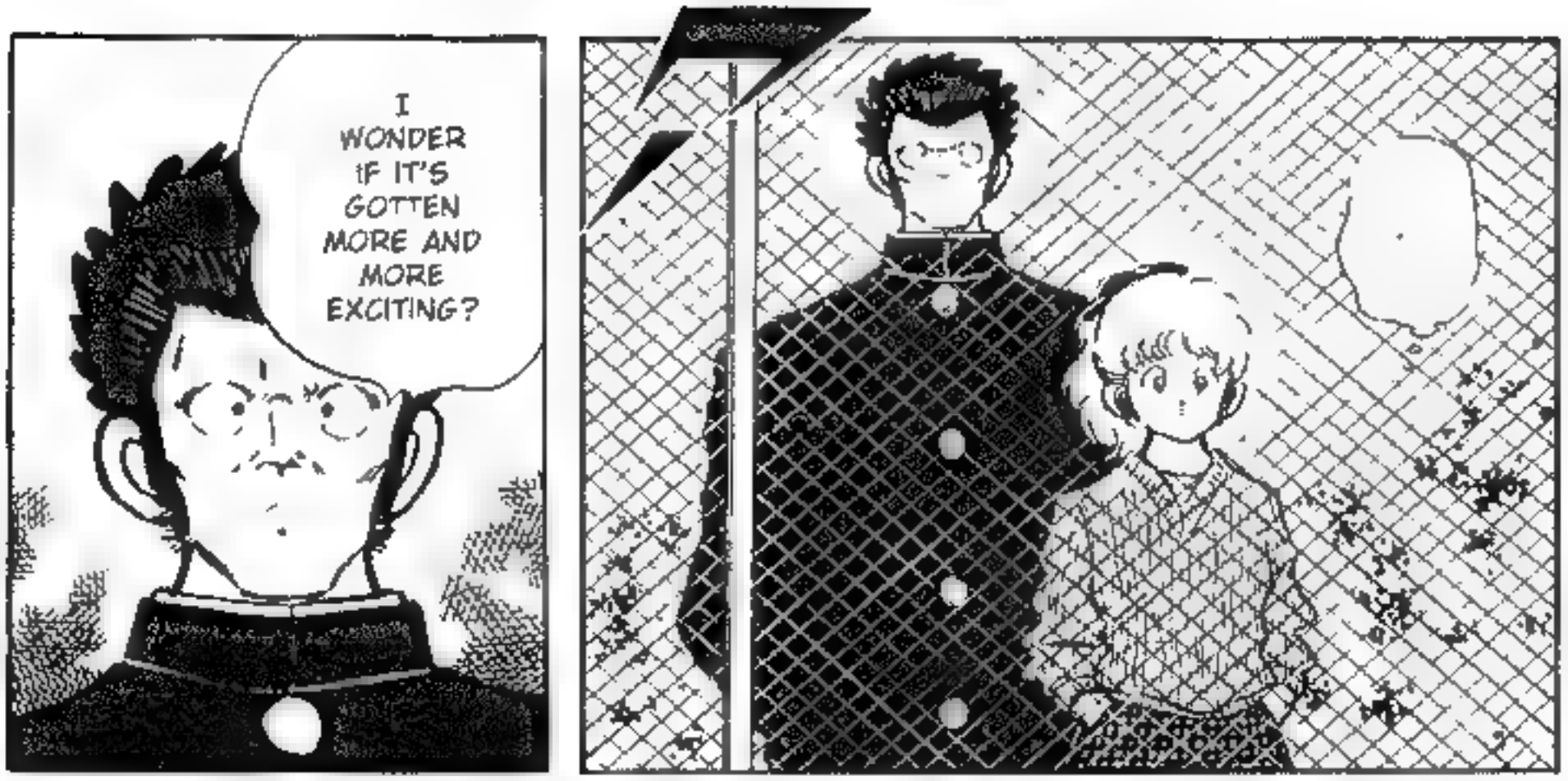
IT'S ONLY 'CAUSE IT'S TATCHAN THAT IT COULD BE THAT CLOSE TO BEING CAUGHT!!

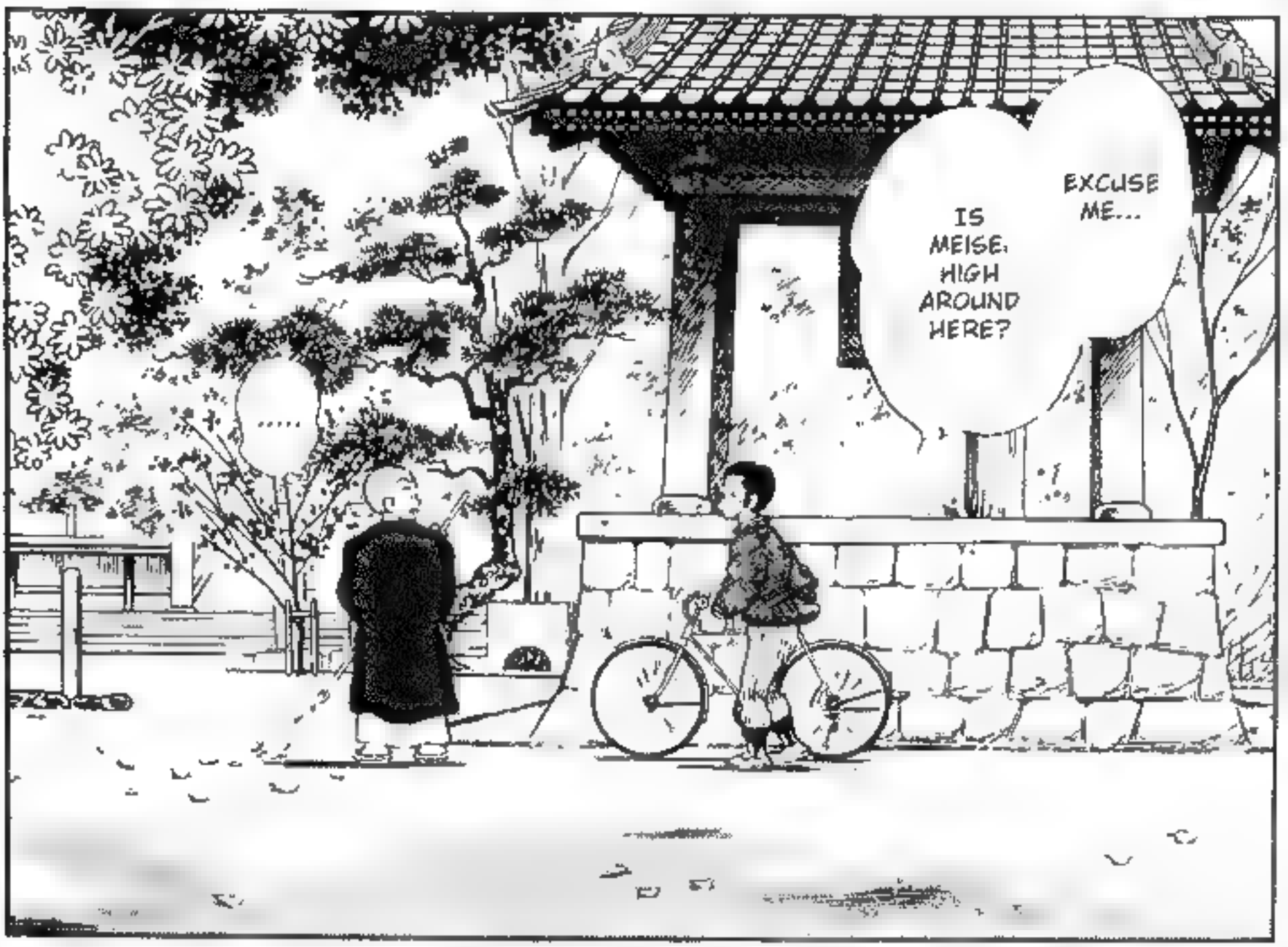
STOP JOKING AROUND!

THAT'S NOT MY LINE.

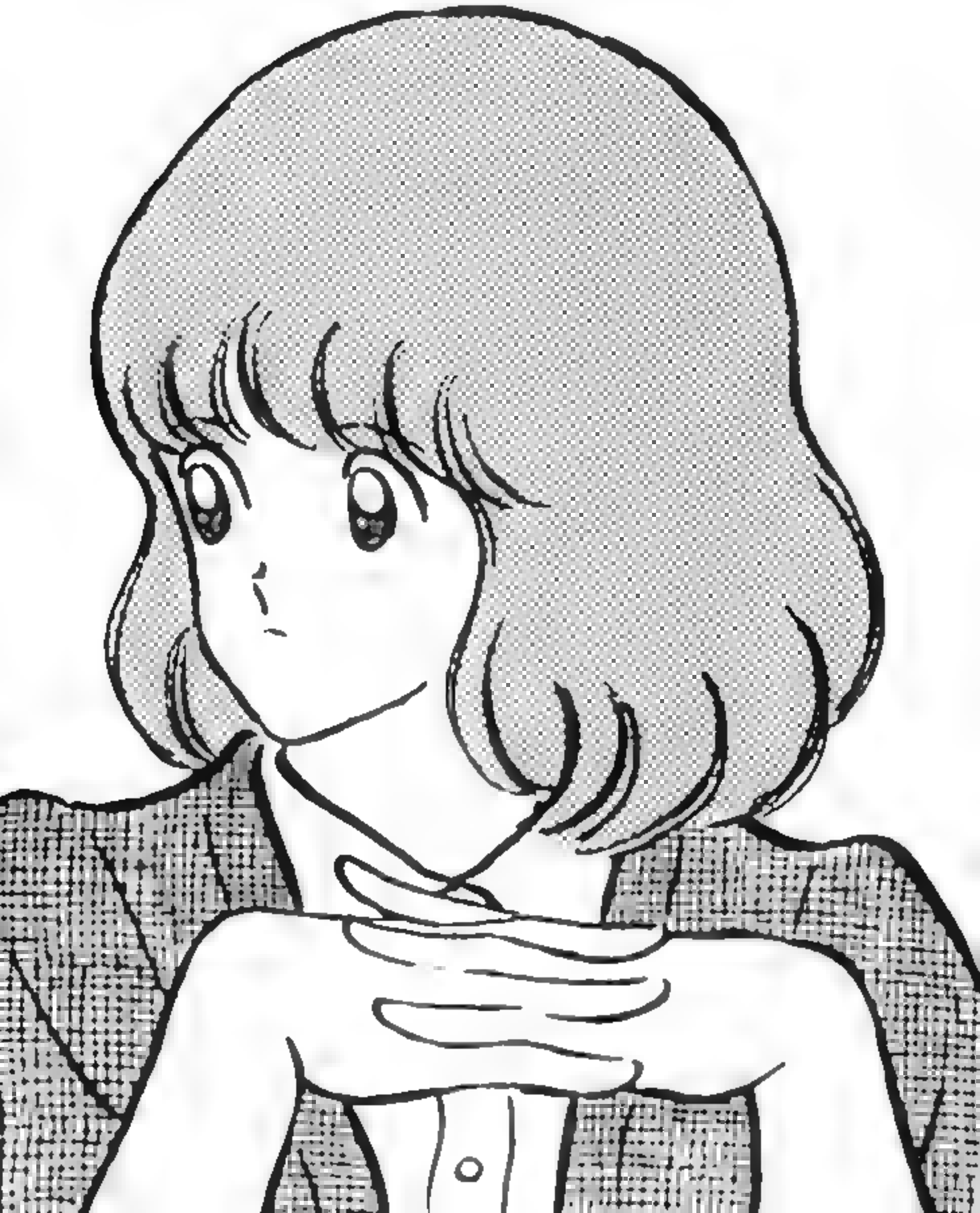
YOU'RE BLAMING OTHERS FOR YOUR OWN FAULTS!

IT WAS A HIT THAT WAS FALLING IN PERFECTLY!


I WONDER IF IT'S GOTTEN MORE AND MORE EXCITING?


EXCUSE ME...
IS MEISE HIGH AROUND HERE?

What's This?



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TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	計
Sumi Tech	0	0	0										
Meisei	0	0	0										

DON'T MIND IT DON'T MIND IT

SUMI

MEI SEI

IF HE DOESN'T HIT A HOME RUN, YOU'VE DONE VERY WELL...

IF YOU HOLD THE REST IN CHECK, IT'LL BE FINE.

OKAY?

CONSIDERING IT'S NITTA, IT'S NEVER SATISFYING WHEN HE HITS...

SOME-THING LIKE THAT.

CALM DOWN, YOSHIDA.

TWO OUTS! TWO OUTS!

THERE'S NO WAY I'M GIVING THEM EVEN A SINGLE RUN!

I'D HOLD THEM IN CHECK EVEN IF YOU DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING.

AH.

ALL RIGHT. GO ROUND THE BAG, NITTA!

S

M

SUMI

ゴー

MEI SEI

?

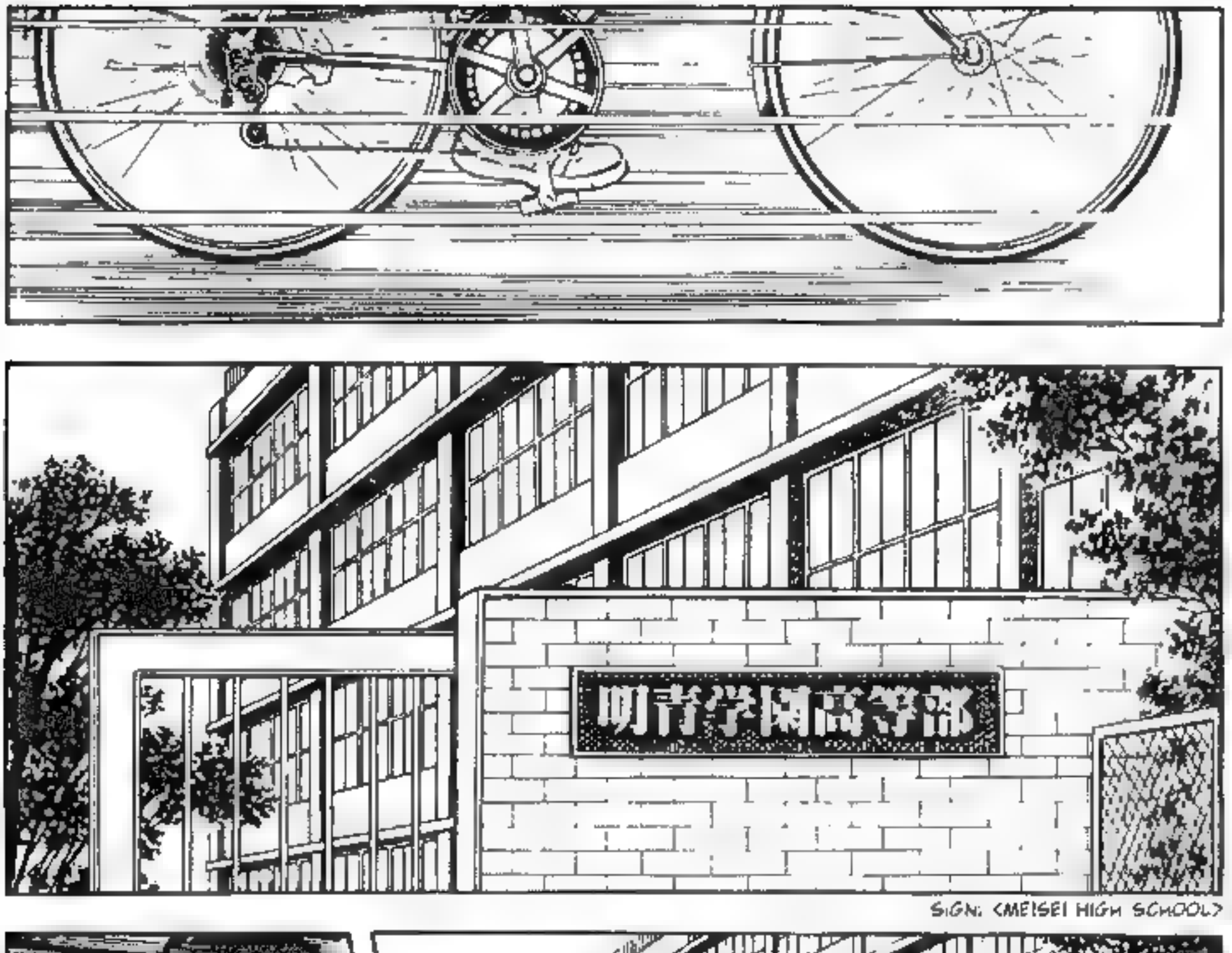
GEH

SU NI

H- HEY, ASAKURA.

IT'S OKAY TO GET MAD!!

IT WAS A PURELY PERFECT ERROR JUST NOW!!



SIGN: <MEISEI HIGH SCHOOL>

CLINK

THREE OUTS! CHANGE!

1-10

IS UESUGI TATSUYA REALLY BETTER THAN THAT NUMBER TEN?

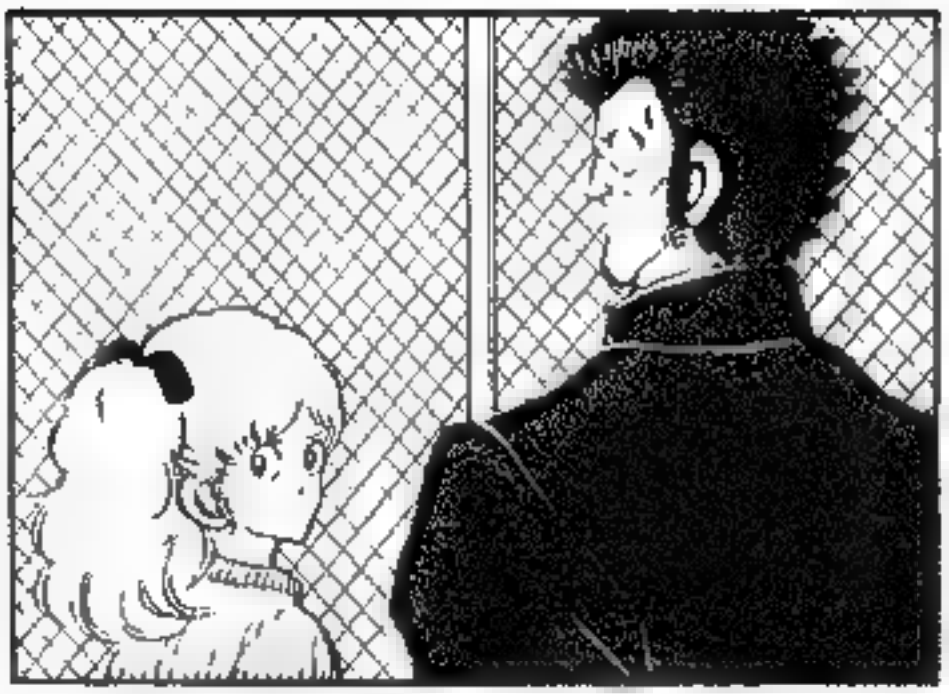
...

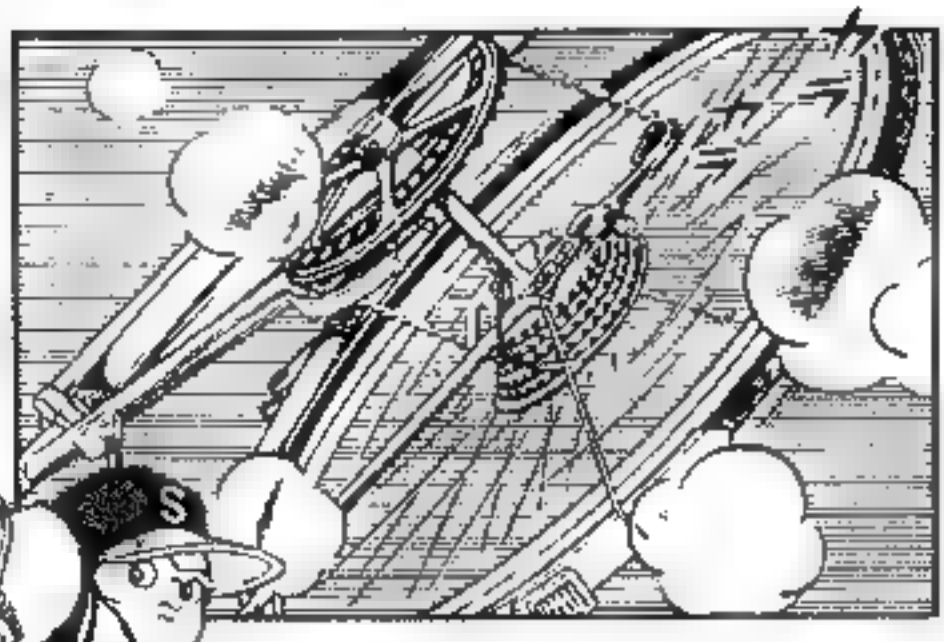
HEY...

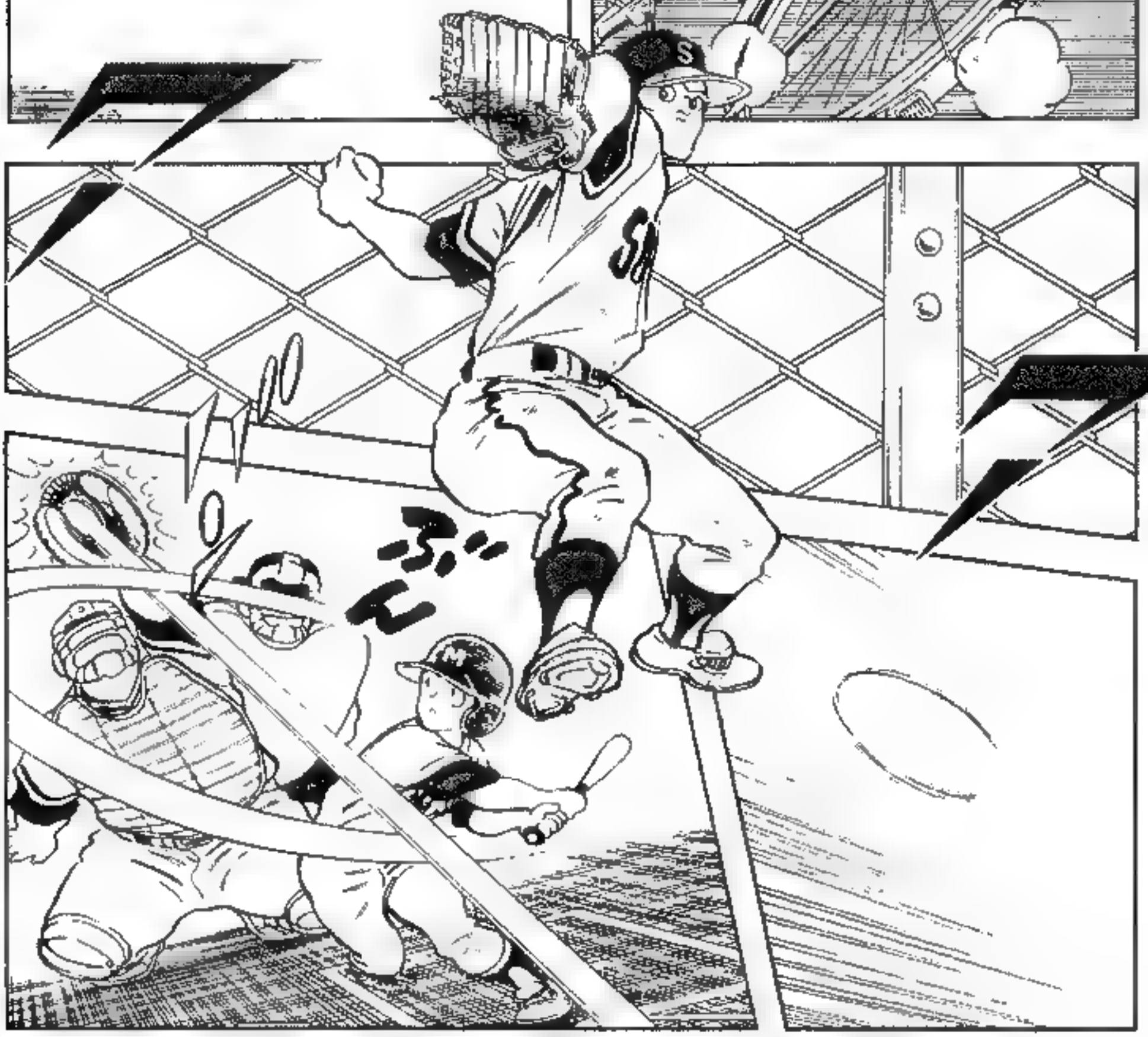
TEAM	1	2	3	4
須見工	0	0	0	0
明青	0	0	0	

SFX. <RATTLE> <CRASHHH>

SFX. <HHHHHHHH>






3.11

THE NEXT TIME UP HE DOES THAT...

JUST WHEN YOU THINK HE'S HITTING DIFF CULT PITCHES WE...

...

BATTER OUT.

I WAS GOING TO WRITE IT JUST NOW.

STRIKE-OUT.

STRIKE! BATTER OUT!

WHIZ

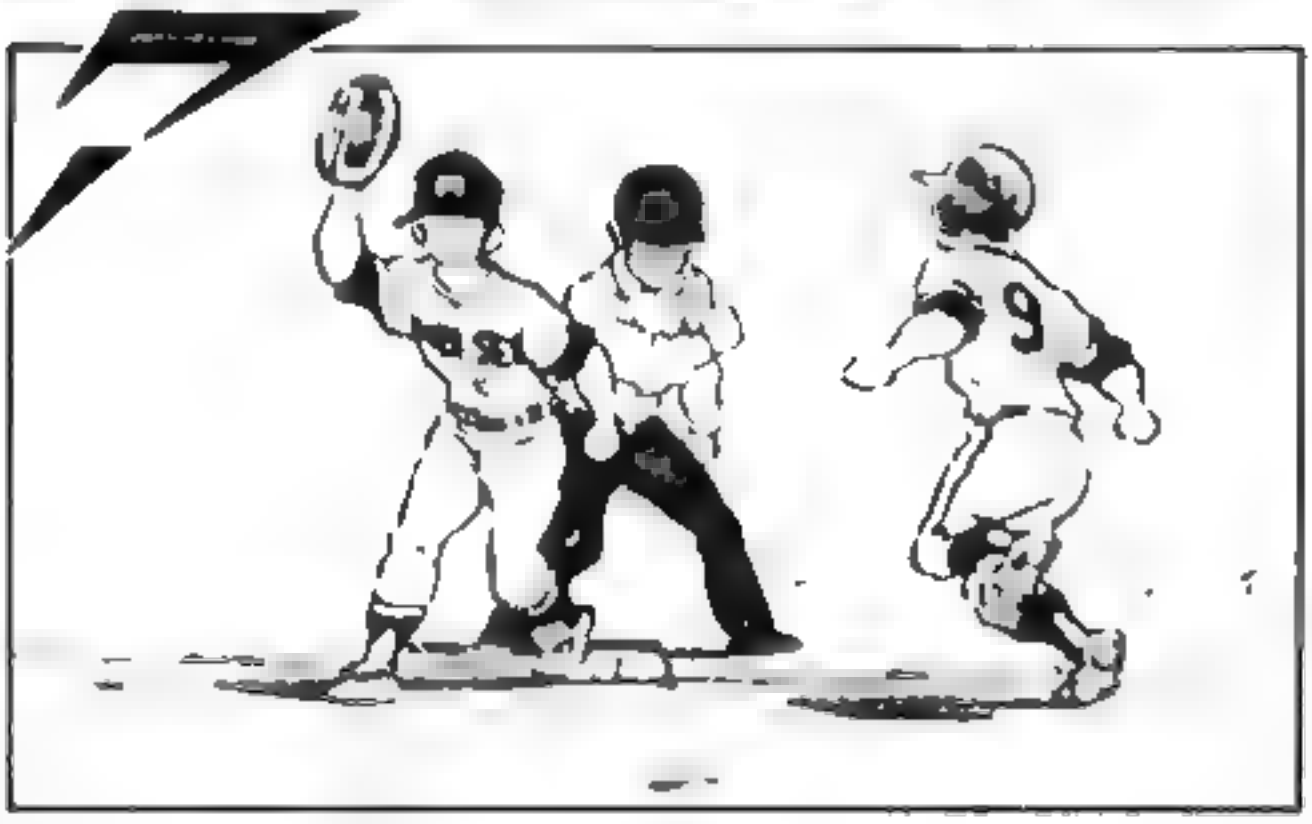
THEY'RE RELIABLE, THE NUMBER THREE AND FOUR BATTERS.

WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU, YOSHIDA!!

WHAT'S TH S?

WHAT'S TH S?

M
10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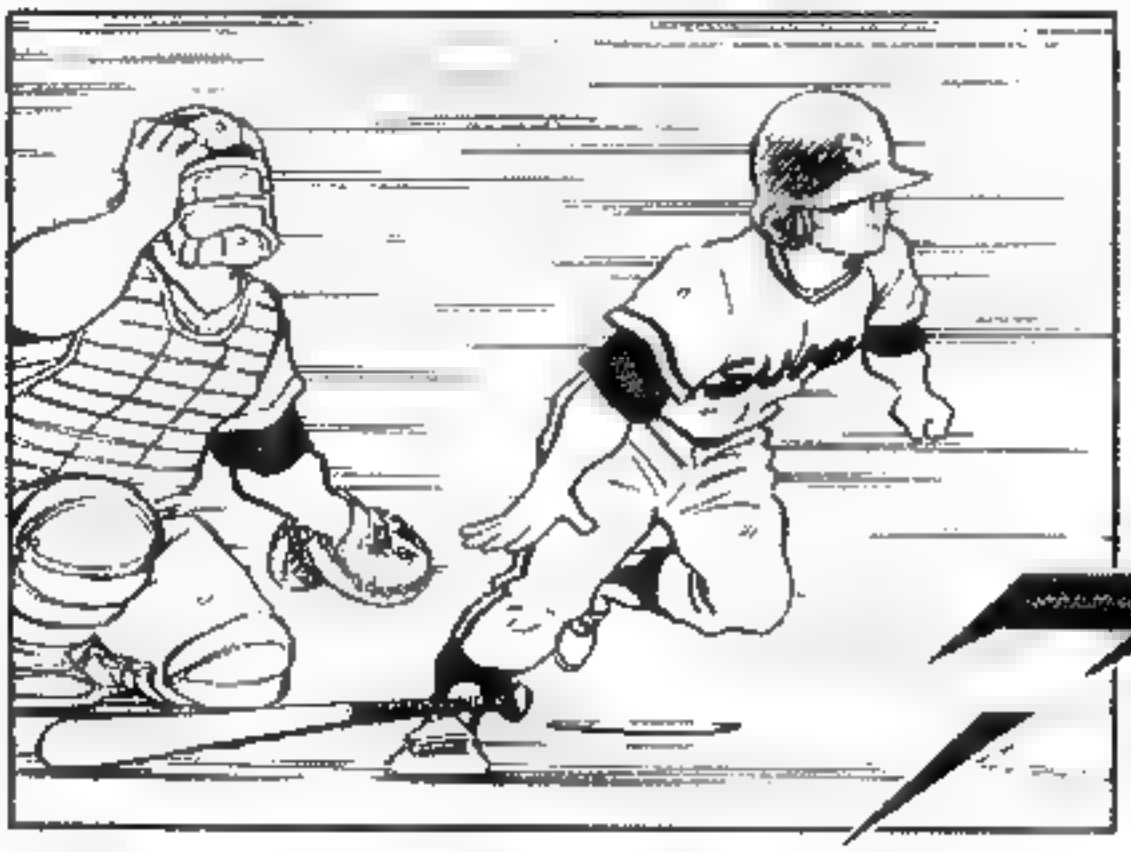

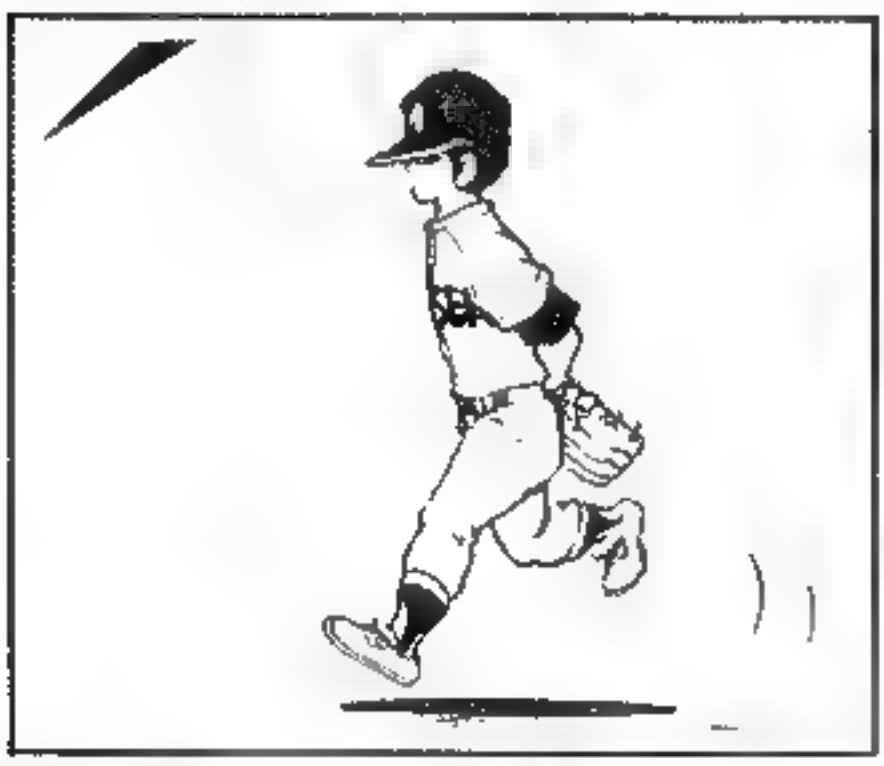

SCOREBOARD <SUM. TECH, MEISE>

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
須見工	0	0	0	0	0		
明青	0	0	0	0			

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IS HE THAT GREAT?

NO RUNS N FIVE INNINGS WITHOUT THE ACE PITCHING

....

IF IT WAS THROUGH ***SIX INNINGS***, HM...

I HELD NITTA DOWN TO ONE HIT, TOO...

STRIKE! BATTER OUT!

...

A YOUNG COACH ...

HE SURE HAS A LOT OF PEP, HUH?

HE'S THE SAME AGE.

HMPH

THAT GUY IS COACH KAMIMURA, WHO GOT TO KOUSHIEN BECAUSE HE USES SKILLED PLAYERS.

12

HMPH

AS WHO?

STRIKE! BATTER OUT!

YOSHIDA.

I SHOULD ONLY BE DEVOTING MYSELF TO PITCHING!

IT'S OKAY. I'M THE PITCHER...

CON-SECUTIVE STRIKE-OUTS...!!

LET'S GO, KOUTAROU!

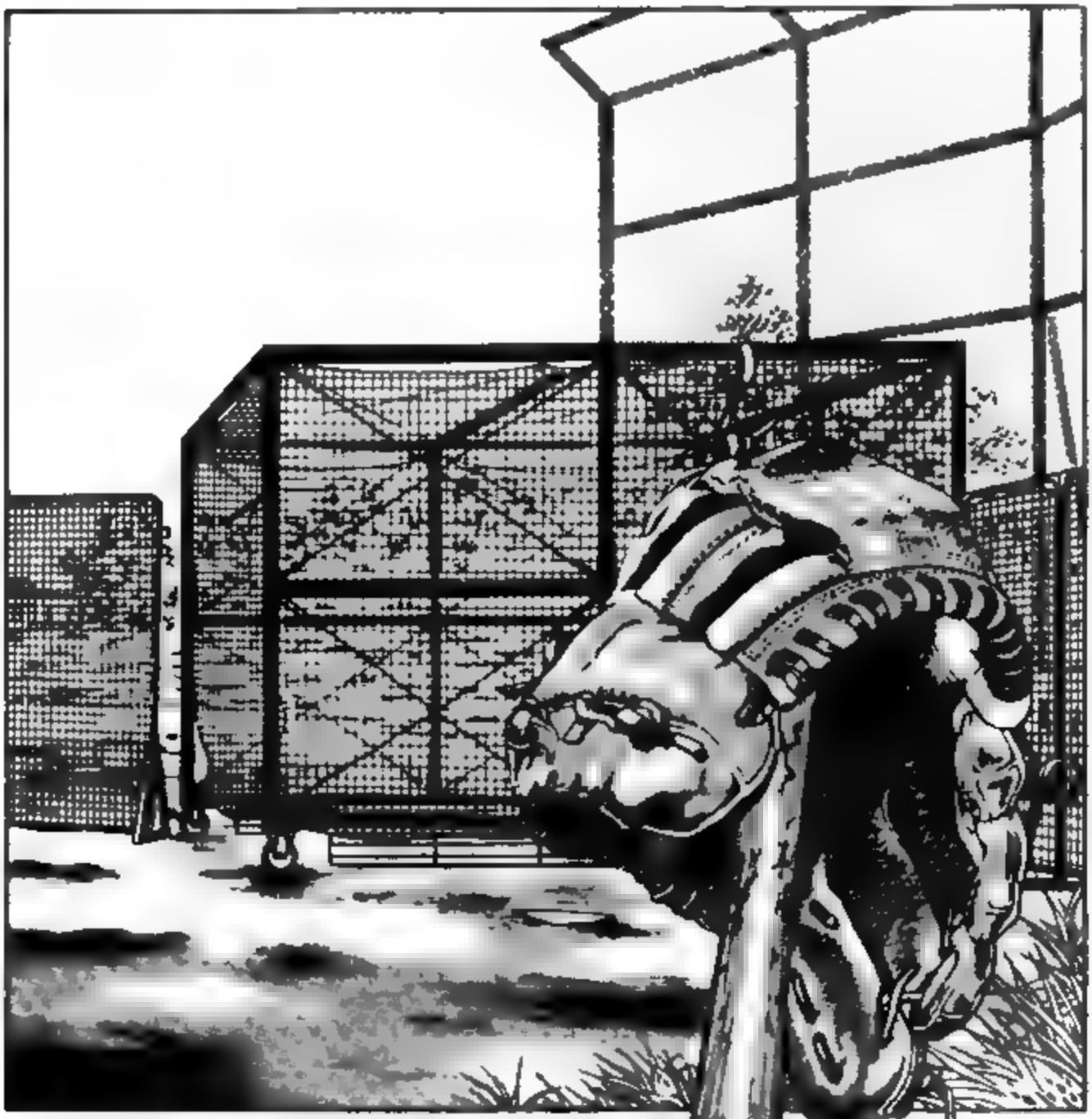
UESUGI.

SWITCH POS TIONS

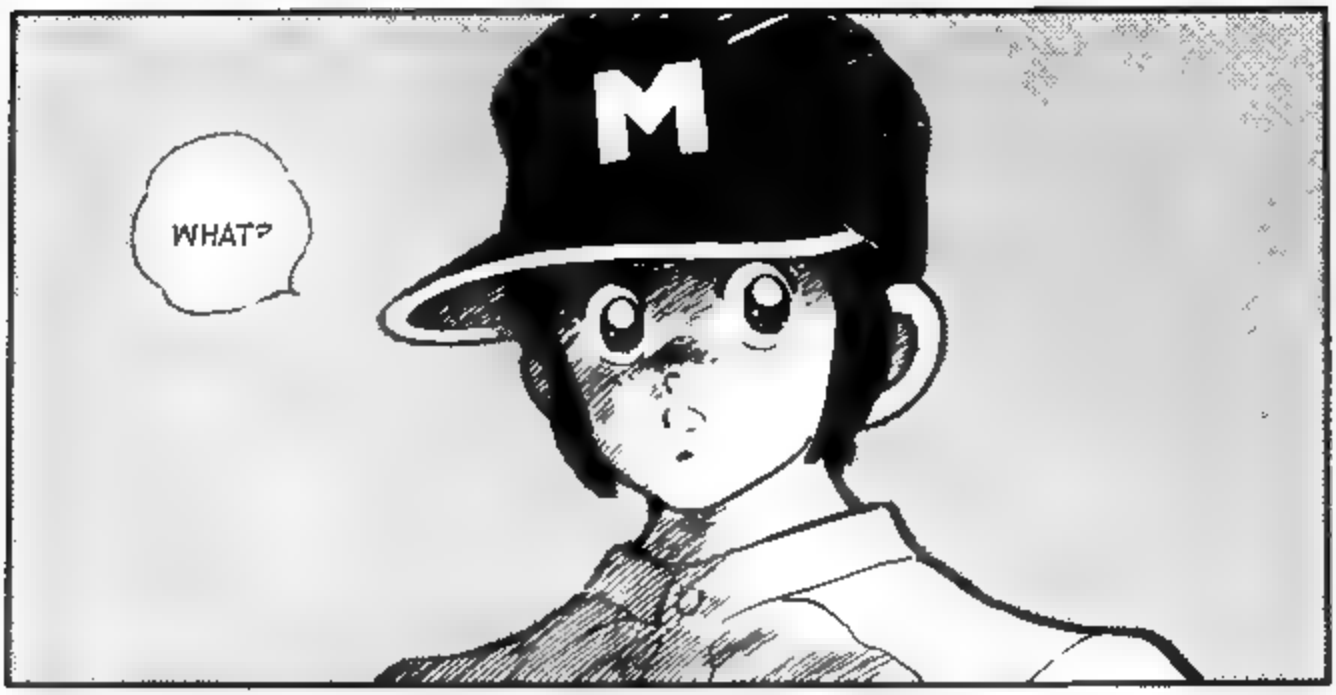
*Adachi-Manga
@irc.irchighway.net

TOUCH 127

UESUGI TATSUYA'S RIVAL



Translated by *bsx*
Scanned by *neithan-kun*
Edited by *KingFish*
Proofread by *Digit*



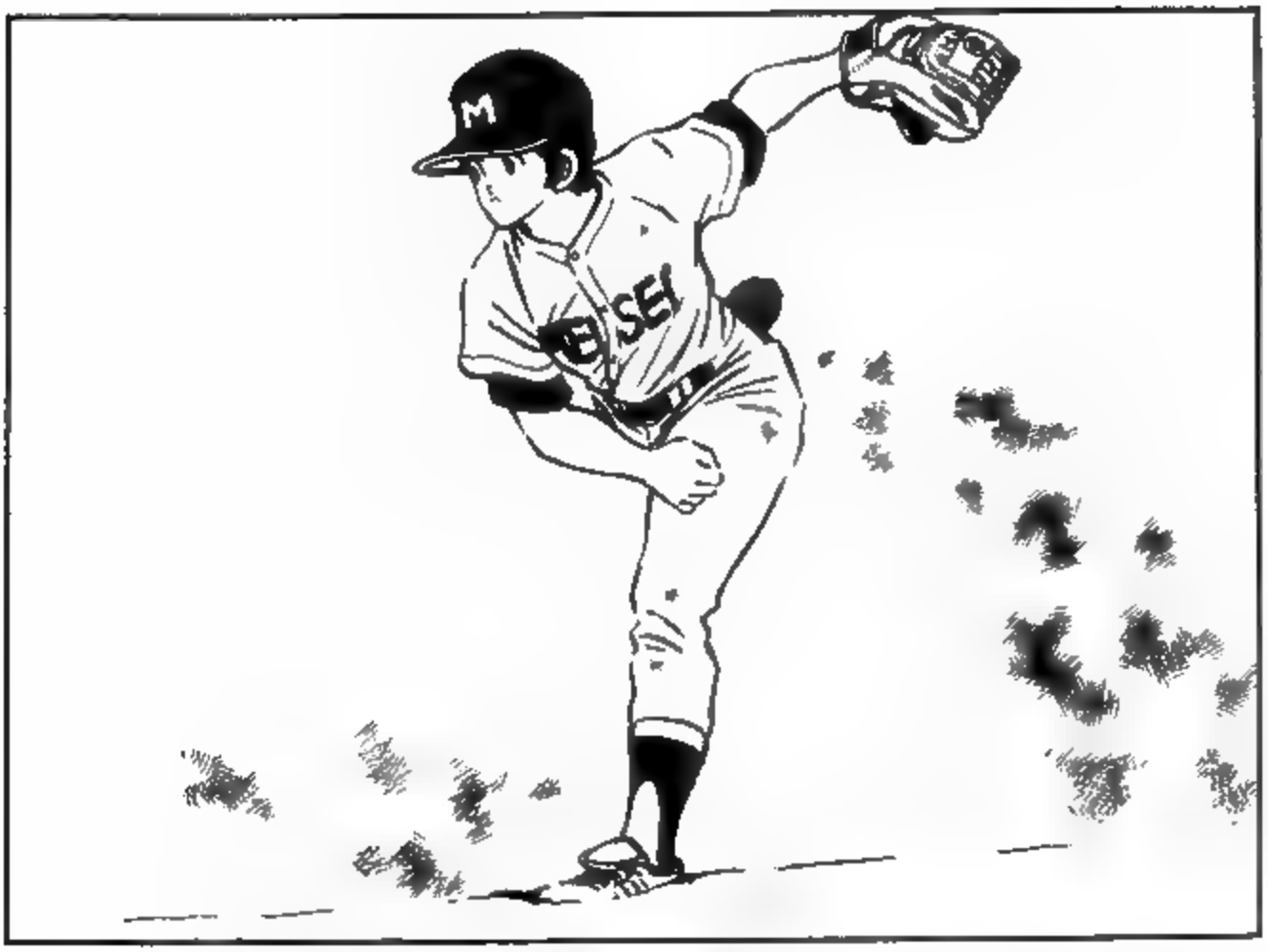
TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	X
SUMI TECH	0	0	0	0	0			
MEISEI	0	0	0	0	0			

NICE. GOOD LUCK, TACCHAN
HERE, UESUGI.
COA. . COACH.
YOU DID GOOD
YEAH, GOOD JOB
YOU'RE A HERO
HUH?
THEY DIDN'T SCORE THROUGH 5 INNINGS. IT'S NOT LIKE ANY OF THEM GOT ON BASE EITHER.
WHY?
LOOK HERE, LOOK HERE!
I WON'T ACCEPT IT!
THEN WHY DID YOU MAKE THE CHANGE?!

WHY IS THAT?
fuu
NO MATTER HOW WELL YOU ARE PITCHING I WAS GOING TO TAKE YOU OUT WHEN THEIR LINEUP WENT THROUGH THE SECOND TIME
THIS IS WHAT I PLANNED FROM THE START.
THE ODDS OF THIS HAPPENING IS REALLY HIGH.
YEA!
NOT TO MENTION THAT AS THE GAME PROGRESSES THEY ARE MORE LIKELY TO SCORE
SINCE 2 YEARS AGO SUMI TECH HAS NEVER BEEN HELD SCORELESS IN A MATCH.
SO IT ALL RELIES ON LUCK.
I DON'T KNOW THE OUTCOME MYSELF
EVEN THOUGH I CHANGED TO UESUGI, THAT DOESN'T MEAN THEY WON'T HIT HIM
SO WHAT?!
JUST BECAUSE I'M SAYING THIS DOESN'T MEAN THAT THEY COULD HAVE HIT YOU
WELL,

LET ME PITCH AGAIN! I WILL SHOOT THEM DOWN FOR SURE!
ANYONE WOULD SAY THAT'S A WISHY-WASHY PLAN AFTER HEARING IT!
WHAT KIND OF LOGIC IS THAT? I WON'T ACCEPT IT!
HAVING UESUGI..
RATHER THAN PLAY THE ODDS AND LET YOU PITCH TO THEIR LINEUP THE THIRD TIME,
MEISEI
BONK
MEISEI
I AM WILLING TO DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO WIN!
I SAID IT BEFORE, DIDN'T I?
STOP MAKING A RUCKUS!
MEISEI
ouch
UNDER-STAND?!
AND PLAYERS WHO DON'T GIVE THEIR BEST EFFORT WILL BE SUBSTI-TUTED!
PLAYERS WHO DON'T FOLLOW MY PLAN

IF YOU UNDERSTAND THEN HURRY UP AND TAKE YOUR POSITION!
SHOULD I MASSAGE YOUR SHOUL-DERS?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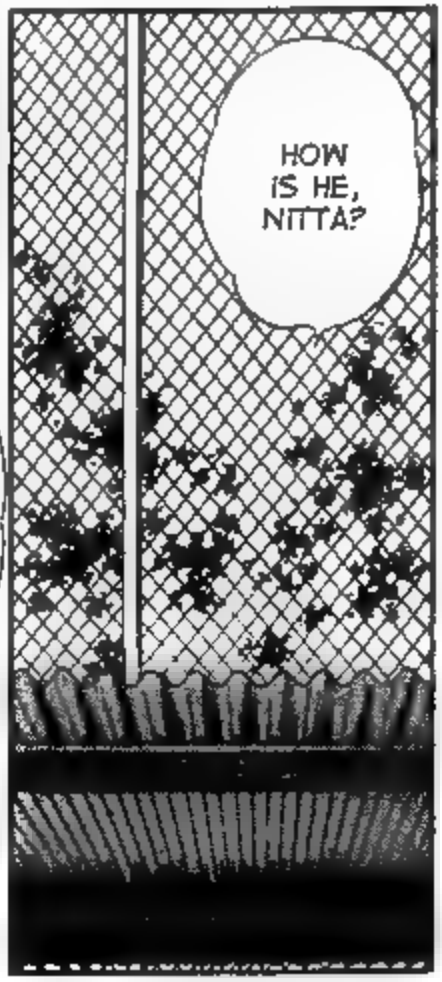

HOW IS HE, NITTA?

S

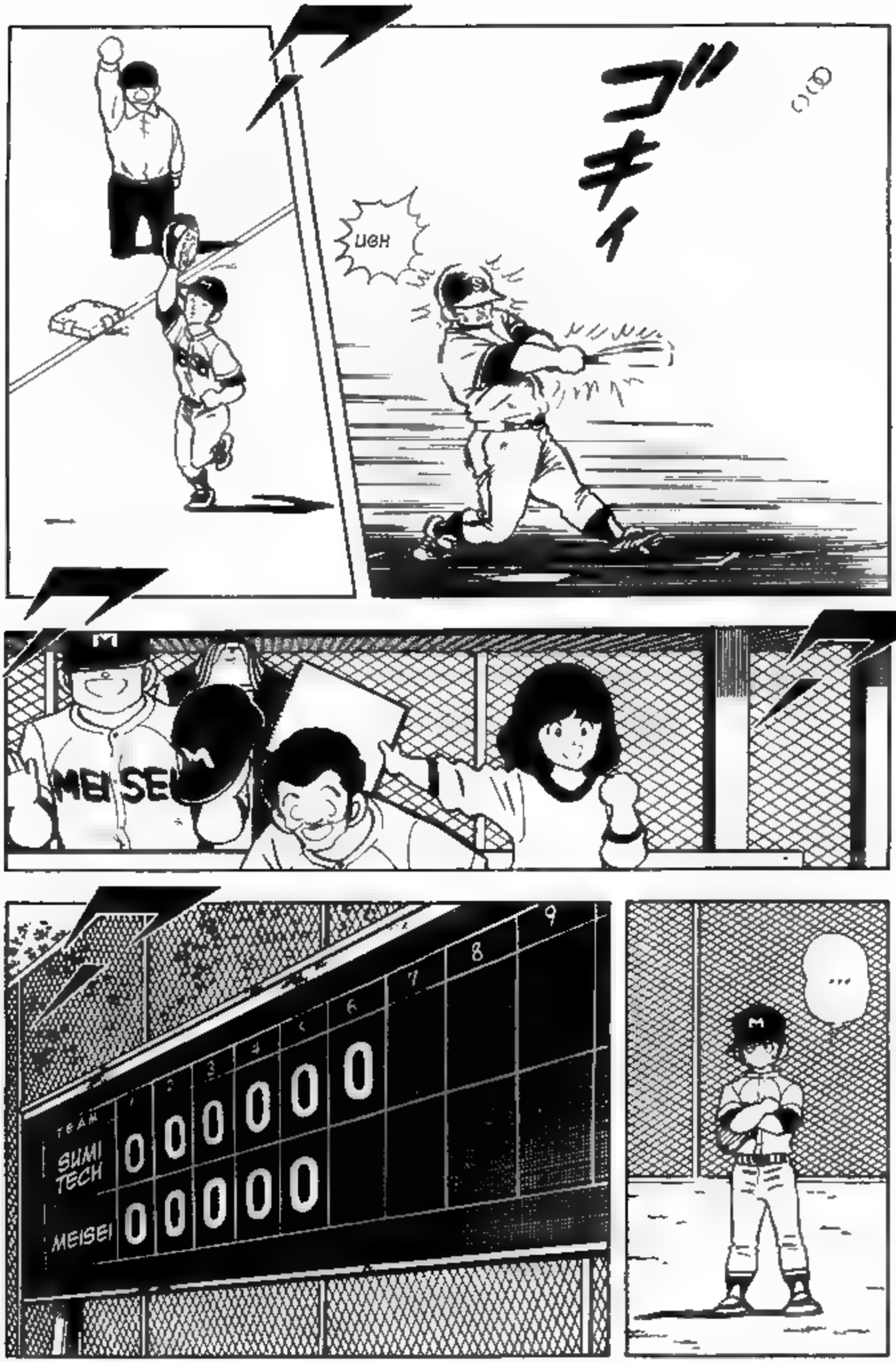
GOOD TIMING ON THE SUBSTI-TUTION

M
S
S
S
blee
PLAY BALL!

STRIKE!
ehe
SEI

STRIKE!
BATTER
OUT!
S

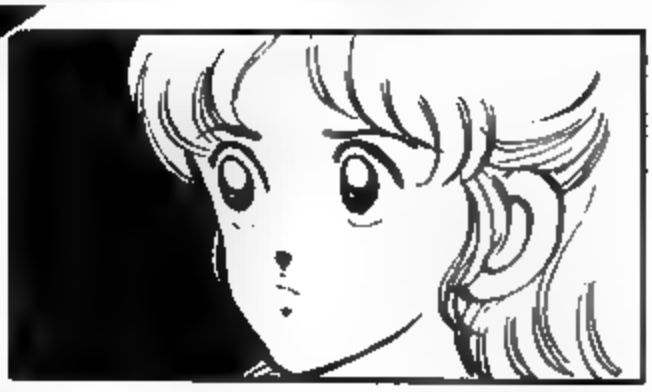
SO WITH THAT SPEED WE WON'T BE ABLE TO HIT HIM THE FIRST TIME
OUR TEAM HAD TO GET USED TO THE OFF-SPEED PITCHES THAT THE PREVIOUS PITCHER THREW
STRIKE! OUT!
SINCE HE ONLY HAS TO PITCH 4 INNINGS HE CAN THROW WITH ALL HIS STRENGTH.
YOU TOO, NITTA?
FROM THE BEGINNING I WAS ONLY THINKING ABOUT HIS FASTBALL

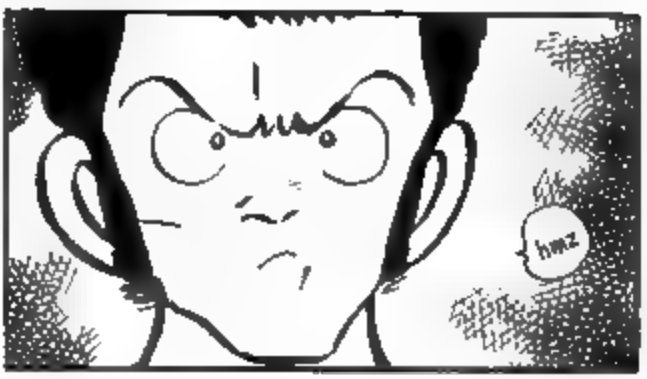

ゴキィ
UGH
MEISEI
TEAM
SUMI TECH
0 0 0 0 0 0
MEISEI
0 0 0 0 0
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
...

EVEN AFTER YOSHIDA'S FINE PITCHING,
HE'S NOT DOING SO BAD HIMSELF.
...
OF COURSE
THERE'S NO WAY HE COULD BE MY RIVAL IF HE DIDN'T COME OUT AND PITCH WELL AFTER THE CHANGE.
...
WHAT?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
UESUGI DOESN'T THINK OF YOU AS...
A RIVAL.

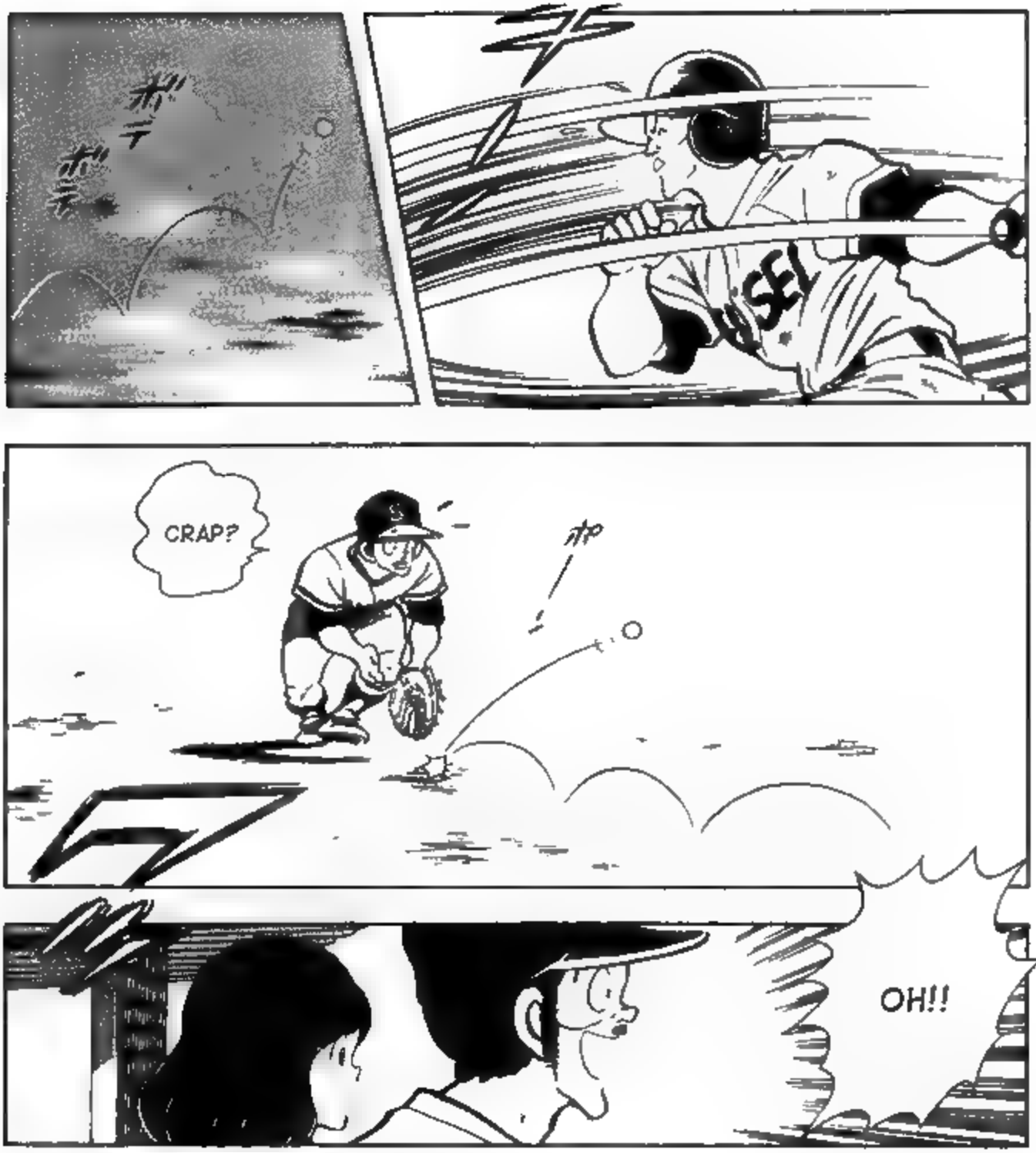
HIS RIVAL ISN'T NITTA AKIO EITHER
UESUGI TATSUYA'S RIVAL IS...
ONLY ONE PERSON

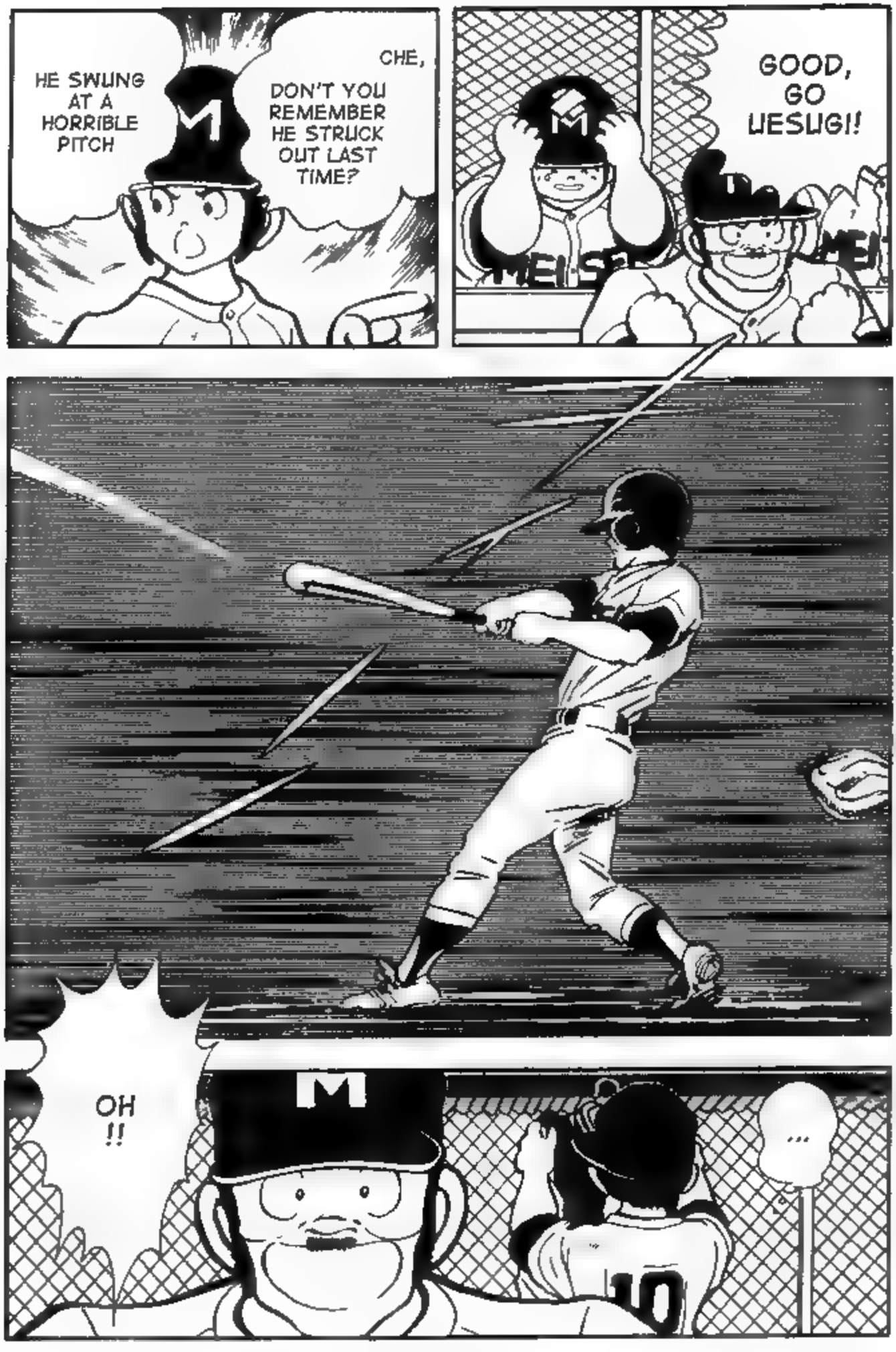
HIS YOUNGER TWIN BROTHER.
UESUGI KATSUYA




hmz

EVEN THOUGH YOUR TEAM ISN'T EVEN LOSING YET
YOU SURE ARE GETTING RILED UP
WHATEVER YOU DO, MAKE SURE THAT UESUGI GETS TO BAT!
PLEASE, MATSU-YAMA!
IDIOT!
ISN'T THAT A GOOD THING?
YOU ARE DOING WELL AGAINST A TEAM THAT WAS SECOND IN KOUSHIEN.
S
WE ARE GOING TO WIN. NO MATTER WHAT.


SE!
CRAP?
OH!!
CRAP
AH,
...
M
IT'S ME. I DIDN'T CLEAN THE FIELD.
COACH,
WE DID IT!


HE SWUNG AT A HORRIBLE PITCH
CHE, DON'T YOU REMEMBER HE STRUCK OUT LAST TIME?
GOOD, GO UESUGI!
OH !!
...

An

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Release

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TOUCH 128

IT'S ALRIGHT

Translated by *bsx*
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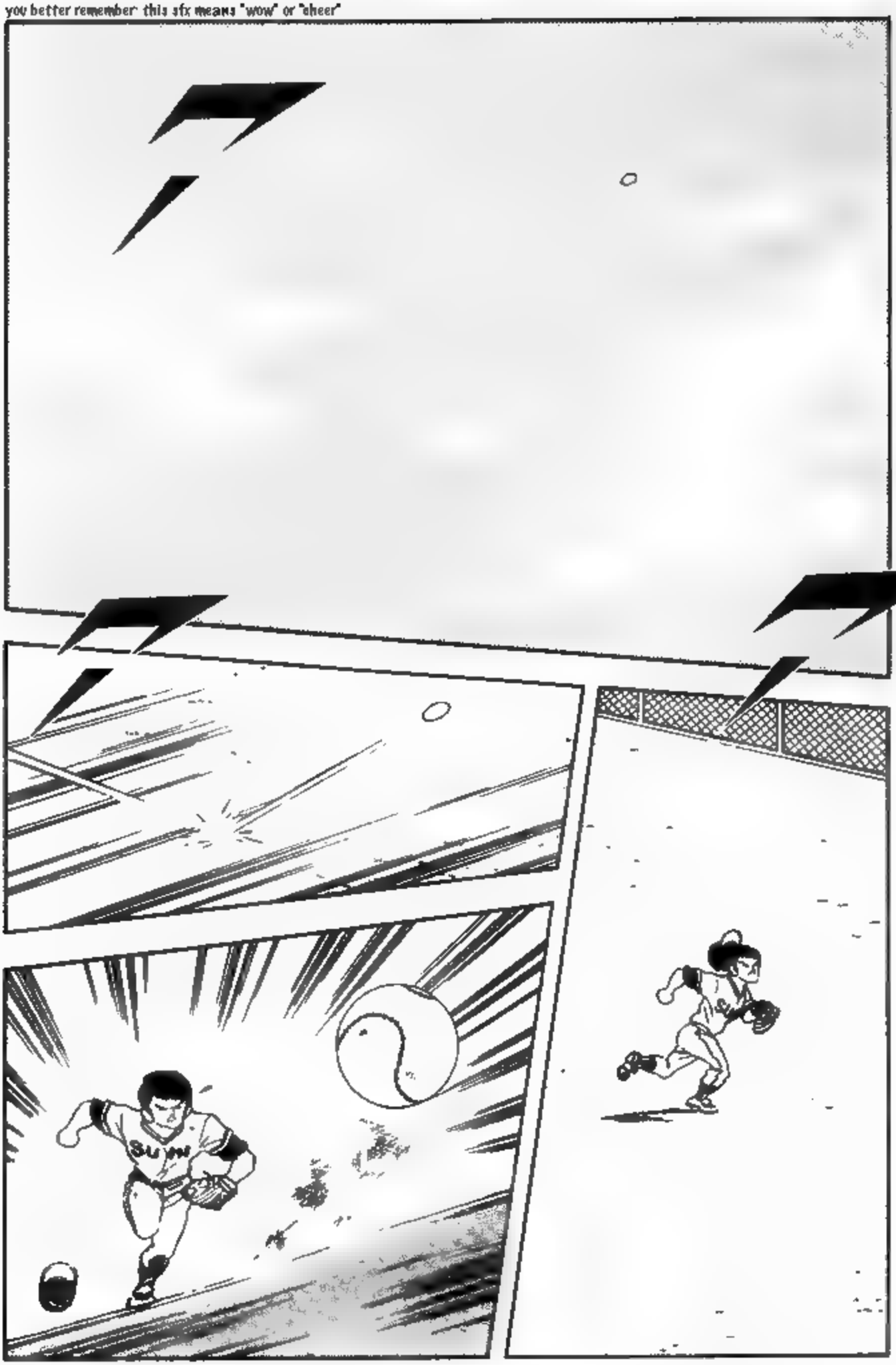
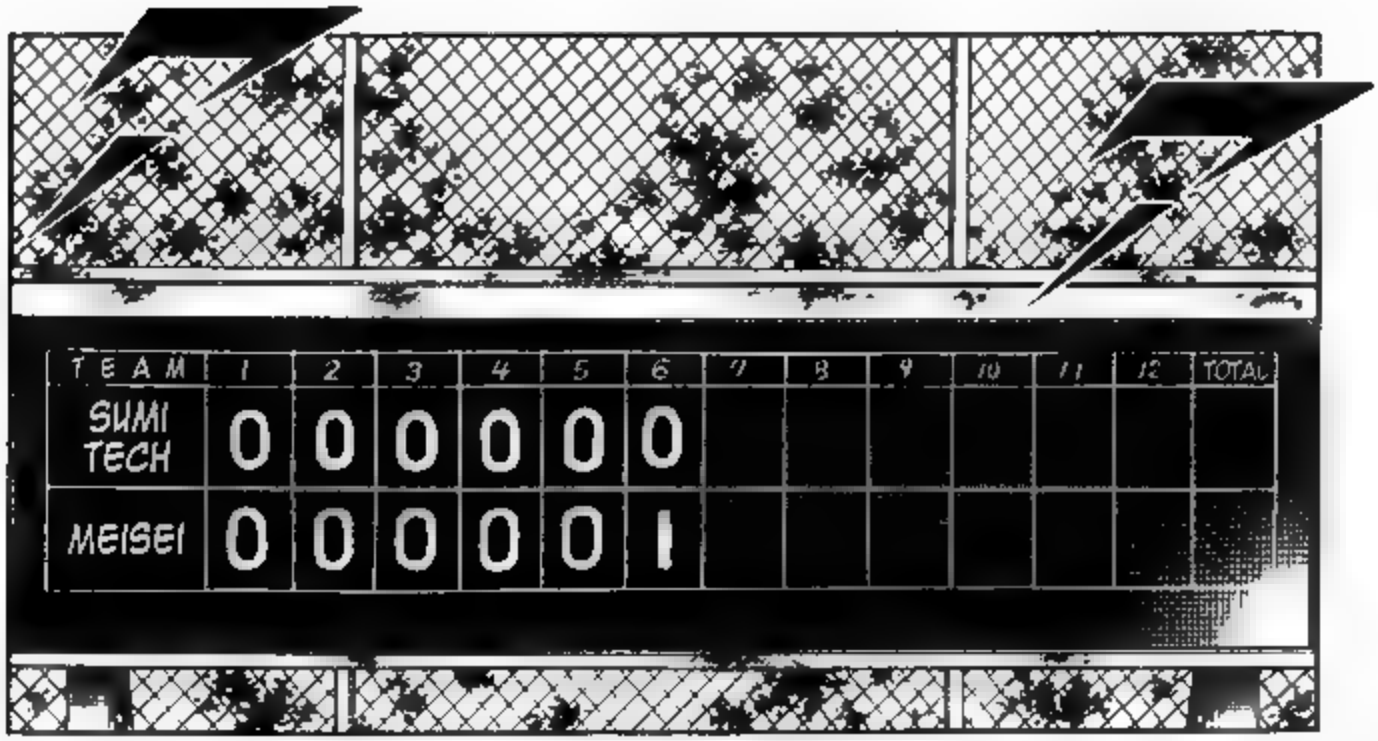
you better remember this sfx means "wow" or "cheer"

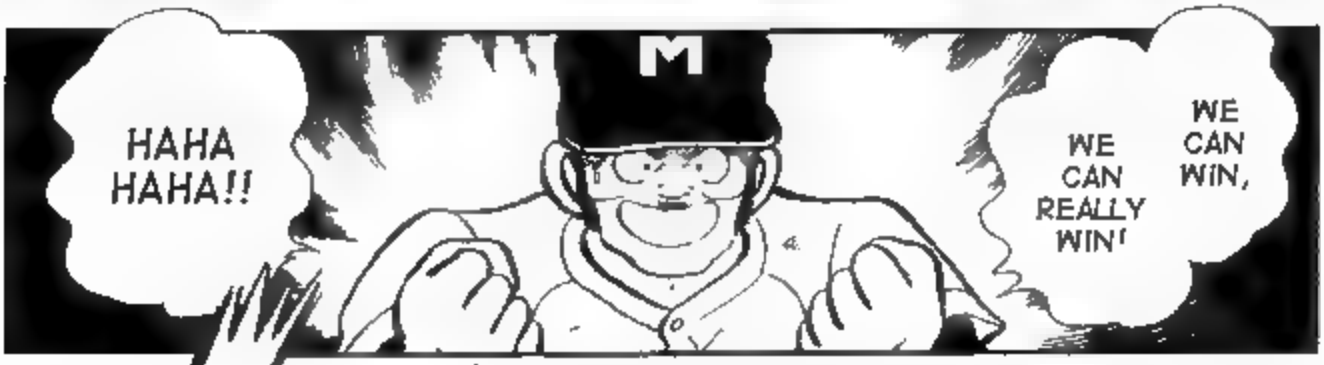


HE DID IT!
YEA!
IT'S AL- RIGHT

THAT YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT HE'S GOING TO DO
THE GOOD THING ABOUT UESUGI IS
DOING PRETTY GOOD.
THEY'RE ...
HMPH
LOSING WOULD MAKE THEM LOOK LIKE IDIOTS
AFTER REQUESTING THE PRACTICE MATCH,
WAIT, WHO'S GOING TO LOSE?
DON'T UNDERESTIMATE THEM.
AND THEY ALSO HAVE NITTA AKIO.
THEY PLACED SECOND IN KOUSHIEN
WHO DO YOU THINK THEY'RE PLAYING AGAINST?
DON'T ACT ALL COCKY OVER ONE RUN.

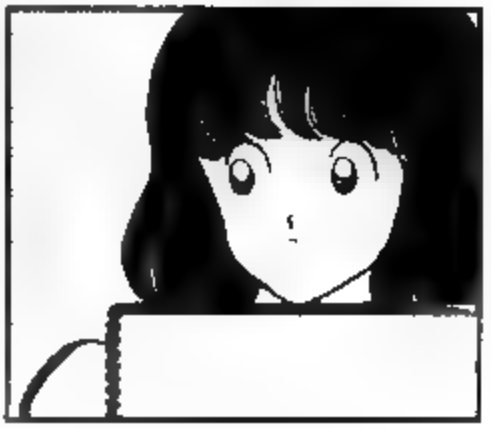
sfx: bonk (ball getting hit)
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT UESUGI KATSUYA OR TATSUYA...
BUT THERE IS NO WAY ANYONE IS BETTER THAN MY BROTHER.
UE-SUGI, DO YOU WANT TO HIT FOURTH?


TEAM 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 TOTAL
SUMI TECH 0 0 0 0 0 0
MEISEI 0 0 0 0 0 1


HAHA HAHA!!
WE CAN REALLY WIN!
WE CAN WIN,

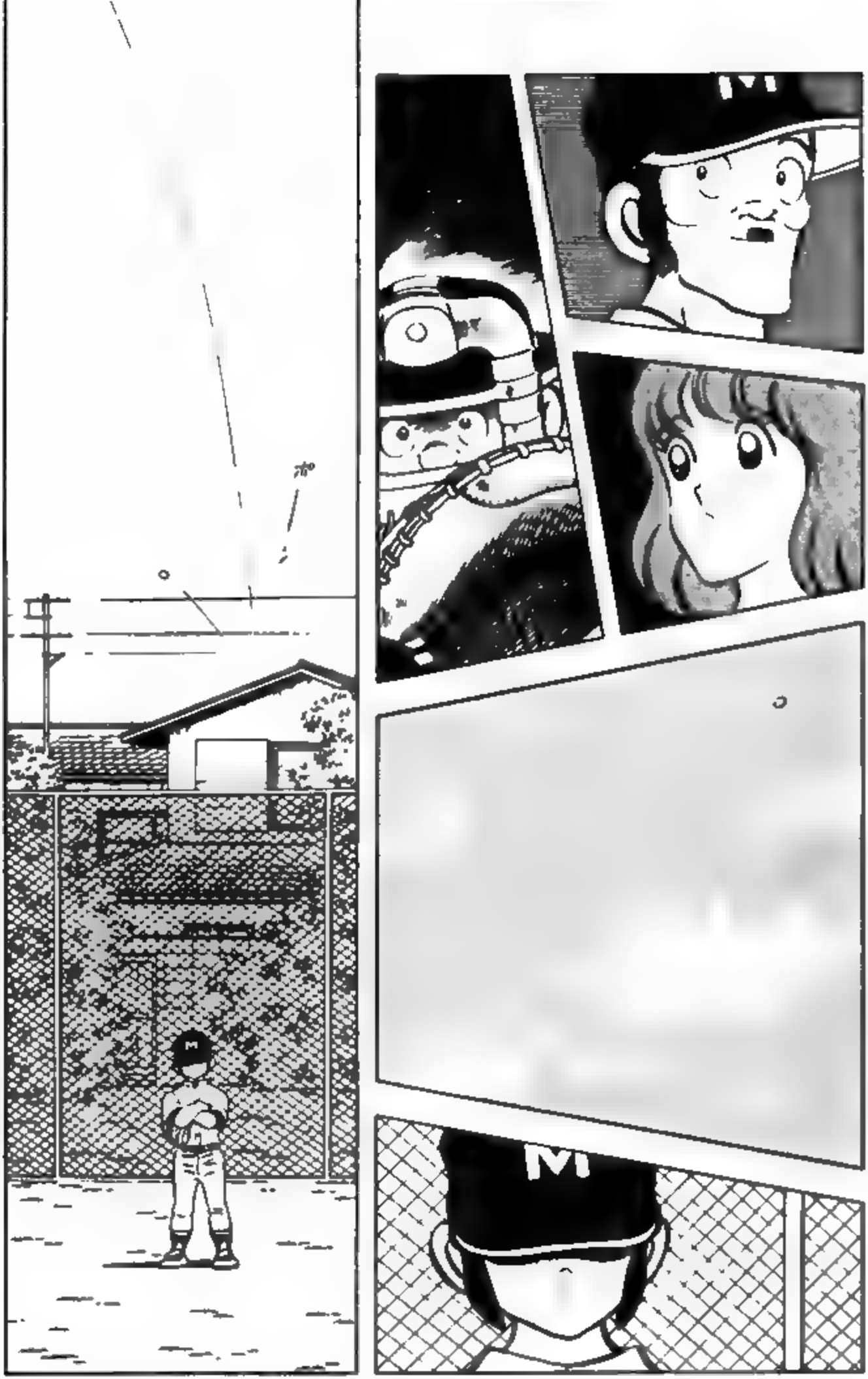
DO YOU HAVE SOME KIND OF GRUDGE,
AGAINST THE OTHER COACH?
HMPH

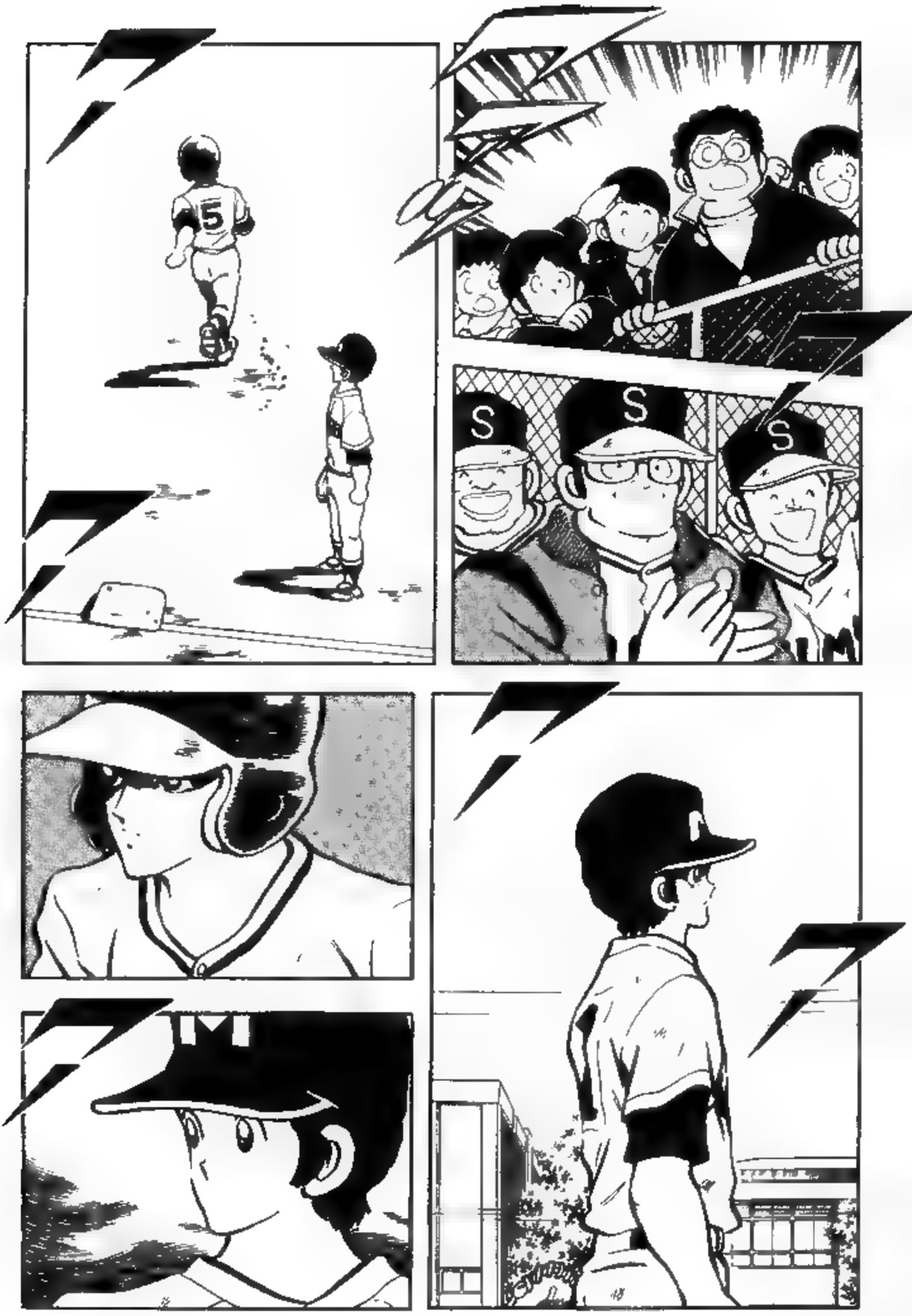
YOU BASTARD KAMI-MURA,
WATCH US WIN.



sfx. book

S




5
S
S
S

ONCE MY BROTHER ACKNOWLEDGES SOMEONE'S STRENGTH HE TURNS INTO A DIFFERENT PERSON.
SEE THAT?
A PITCHER THAT WEAK CAN'T MAKE MY BROTHER SHOW HIS TRUE POWER
SO HE'S A BORN GENIUS
UGGHH!!
THAT BALL WOULD'VE BEEN A FLY BALL TO RIGHT UNDER NORMAL CIRCUM-STANCES
6
0
1
1

GIVING THEM THAT HARD RUN WE EARNED EARLIER.
GOSH..
YOU ARE A NICE GUY
UESUGI
sfx: wiggle
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
M

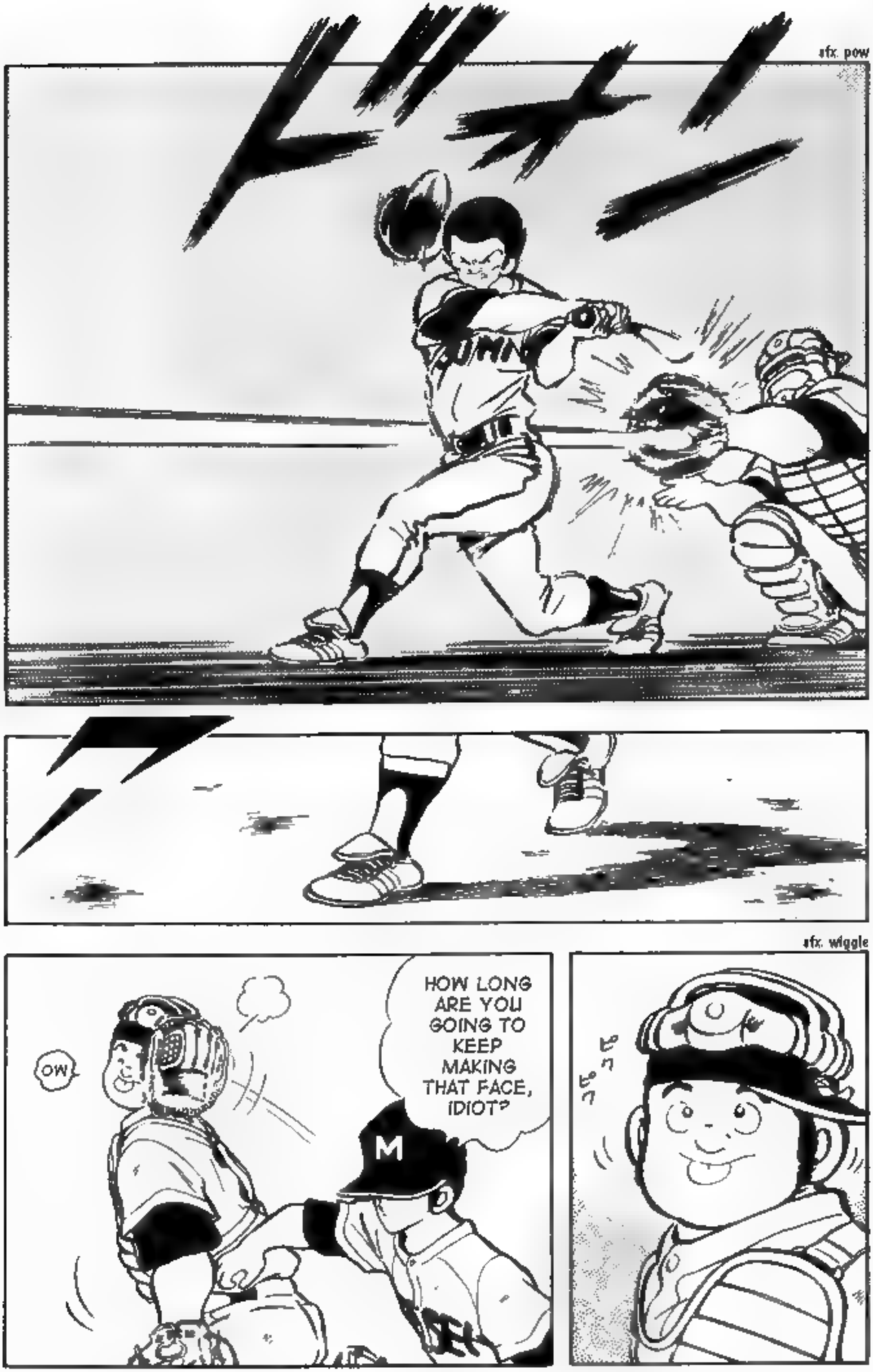
sfx. wiggle
1
...
AND HE RELAXED BECAUSE OF IT
I USED TO DO THIS AFTER KAZUYA GETS HIT,
STOP TREATING ME LIKE A KID,
IDIOT.
THERE WAS NOTHING TO COMPLAIN ABOUT WITH THE SPEED OF THAT LAST PITCH.
LET'S JUST GIVE THE CREDIT TO NITTA.
WHAT A PAIN IN THE ASS...

SUMI
SUMI
KAMIMURA, THE COACH FOR SUMI TECH.
WE WERE TOGETHER IN HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

sfx. pow
WE FOUGHT FOR THE SAME POSITION ON THE TEAM
I SEE
WHAT POSITION?
IN THE END,
BECAUSE HE WAS A BIT BETTER THAN ME, I NEVER MADE STARTER.
TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, THIS GUY WAS AS HEALTHY AS AN OX, AND DURING THAT TIME,
HE NEVER GOT HURT OR SICK
STRIKE!! BATTER OUT!

HUH?
WHAT POSI-TION?
DAMN IT!
IF THAT BASTARD WASN'T THERE.
RIGHT FIELDER
THE POSITION YOU TWO FOUGHT OVER.
OH, THE POSI-TION ?
IT MUST HAVE BEEN A CLOSE BATTLE
sfx pow
STRIKE!! BATTER OUT!!

GREAT!
I COULD NEVER WIN ONCE!
WE BOTH BECAME COACHES BUT NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES WE BATTLED,
THAT'S NOT ALL.
HE SEEMS TO BE FINE AFTER THAT HOME RUN
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S TOO MUCH?
THAT BASTARD ALWAYS MANAGES TO GO TO KOUSHIEN
RIGHT ?
COULDN'T HE CUT ME A BREAK FOR EVEN ONE GAME?
WHY DO YOU THINK THAT IS?
GO, TACCHAN !!!
RIGHT? RIGHT?


sfx. pow
OW!
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP MAKING THAT FACE, IDIOT?
sfx. wiggle

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WHEN COMPARED TO KAZUYA

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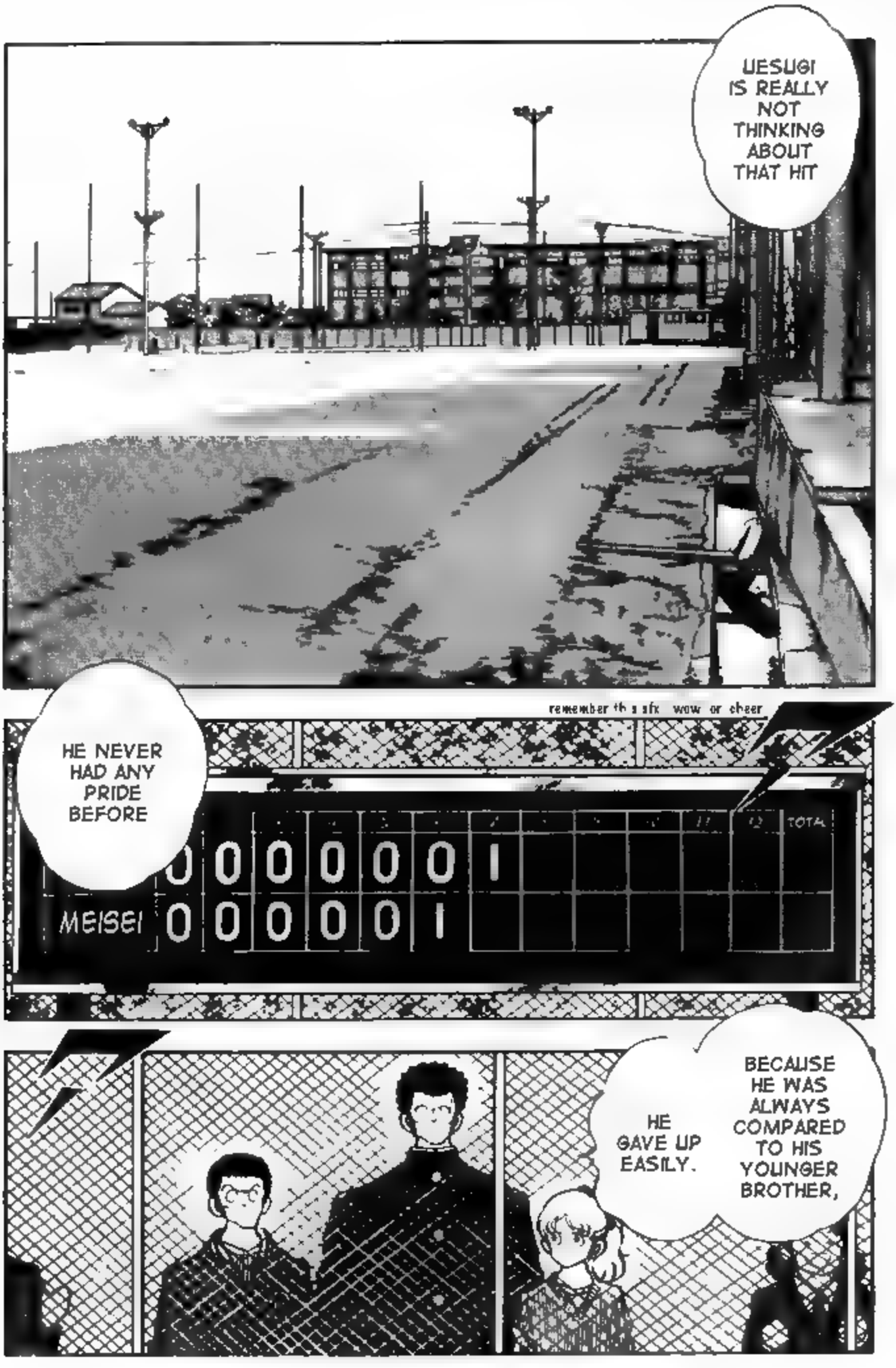
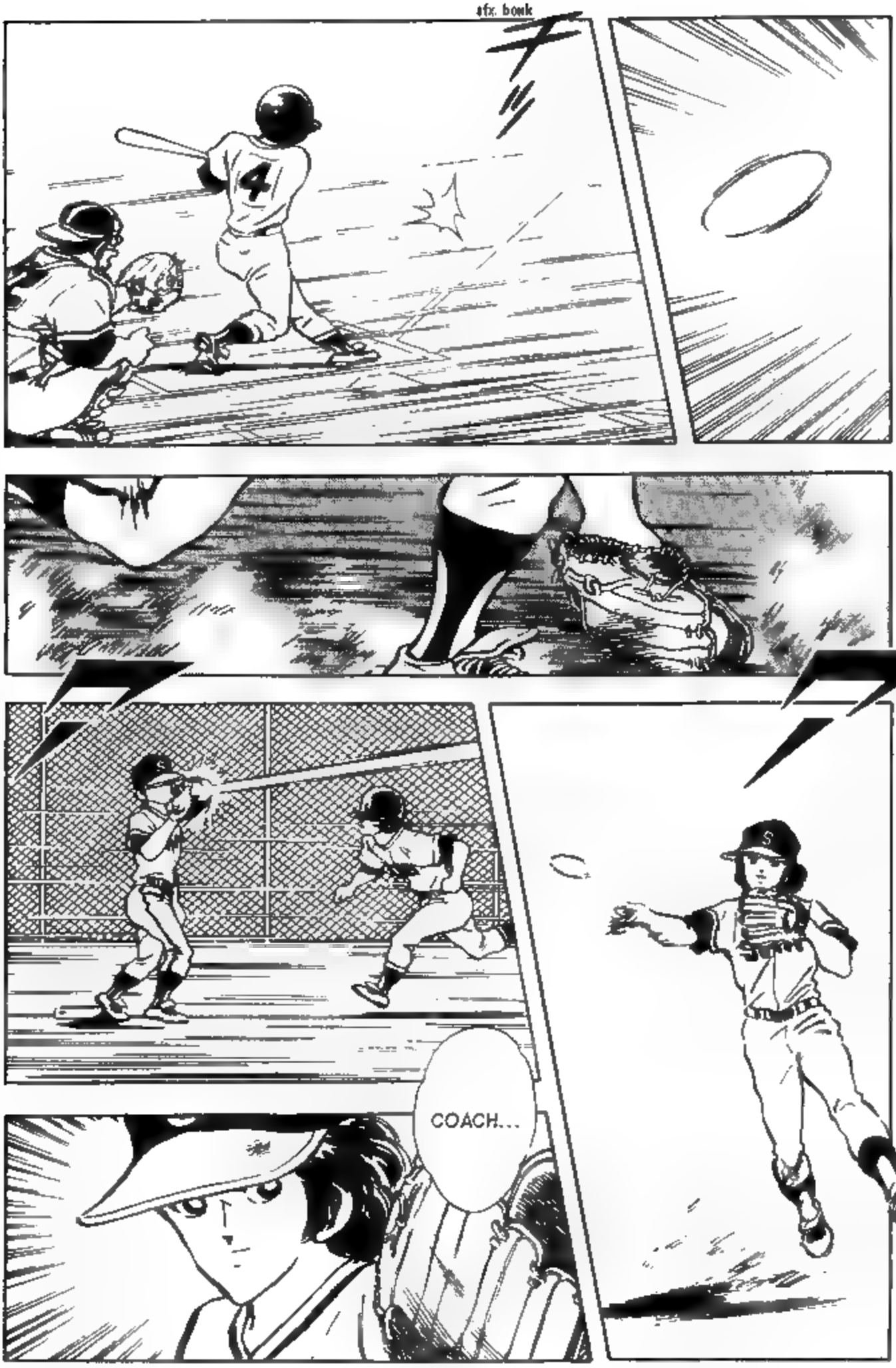

UESUGI IS REALLY NOT THINKING ABOUT THAT HIT
HE NEVER HAD ANY PRIDE BEFORE
remember th s sfx wow or cheer
TOTAL
MEISEI 0 0 0 0 0 1
HE GAVE UP EASILY.
BECAUSE HE WAS ALWAYS COMPARED TO HIS YOUNGER BROTHER,

I DON'T KNOW
IS THAT HIS STRENGTH OR WEAKNESS?
THREE STRAIGHT STRIKE-OUTS!
sfx: whap
WHO!
NITTA SHOULD GET CREDIT FOR HITTING IT.
THE BALL I THREW WAS FLAWLESS.
BUT KOTAROU TOLD ME
TAKE THIS A LITTLE MORE SERIOUS-LY!
DID YOU FORGET ABOUT THE HOME RUN BEFORE THE STRIKEOUTS?
IDIOT!

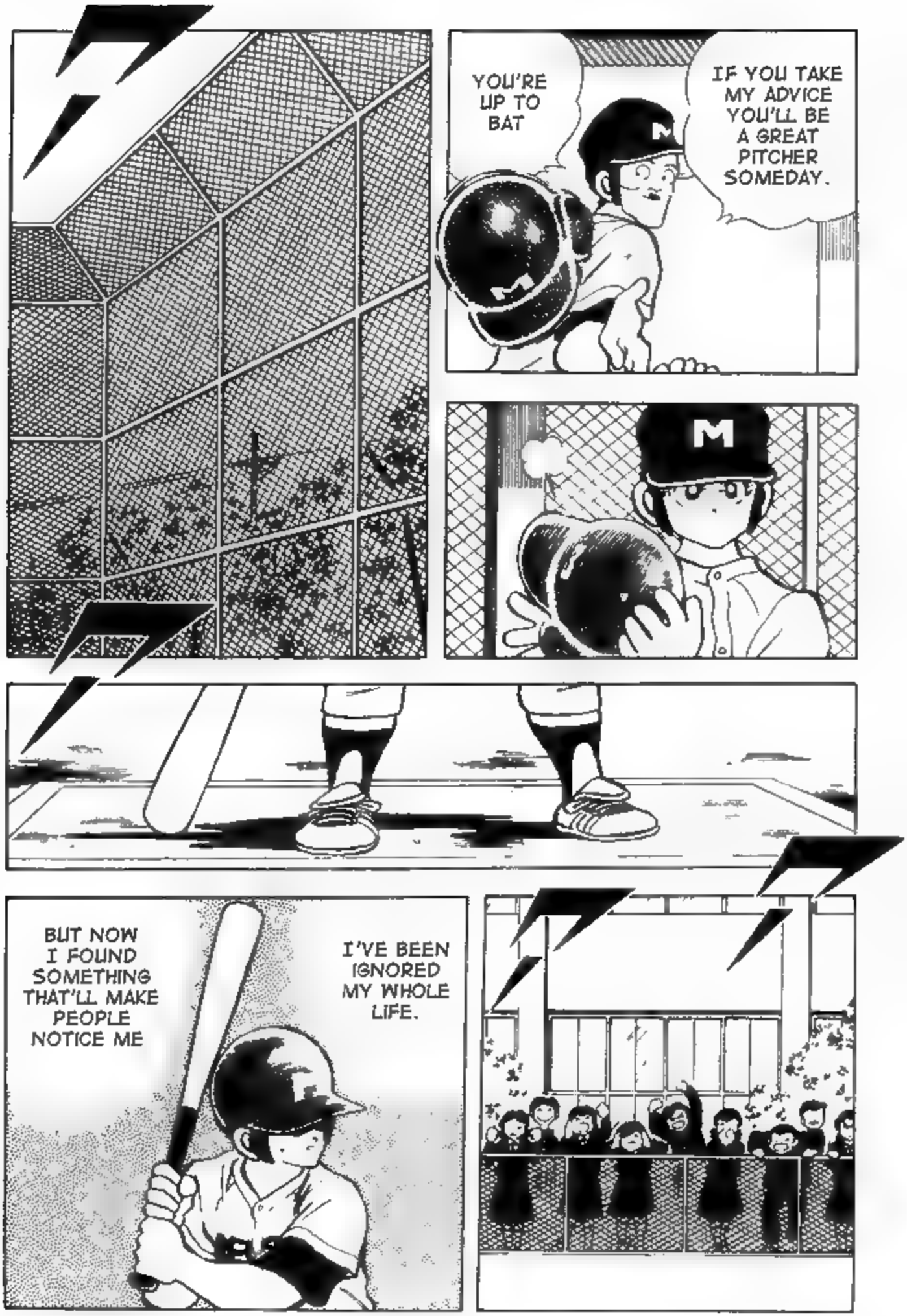
GEEZ
WHO WOULD BELIEVE SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
SAYING SOMETHING LIKE THAT AFTER A PITCHER GETS HIT
IS THE CATCHER'S JOB!
EVEN WHEN COMPARED TO KAZUYA'S FASTBALL, IT'S THE SAME
TAKE MY WORD FOR IT, I'M THE CATCHER
MEI SEI
IT'S NOT A LIE, MINAMI.
THE SPEED ON THAT PITCH WAS GREAT IT SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN HIT.
SO THEN,
YOU'RE SAYING THAT NOT EVEN KAZUYA WOULD'VE BEEN ABLE TO STRIKE OUT NITTA?
UMM
THAT'S NOT IT

NO, THE BALL HAD A GREAT COURSE
WAS MY CON-TROL BAD?
THEN WHY WOULD I GET HIT, BUT NOT KAZUYA?
IF MY PITCH WAS THE SAME AS KAZUYA'S,
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
WELL ...
THEN ... WHAT IS IT?
IF IT WAS KAZUYA, I HAD A FEELING HE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN HIT.
HMM, DEFI-NITELY ..
...
THEN TACCHAN, DO YOU THINK THAT KACCHAN WOULD'VE BEEN HIT BY NITTA?
IDIOT, YOU'RE JUST TAKING SIDES!


COACH...

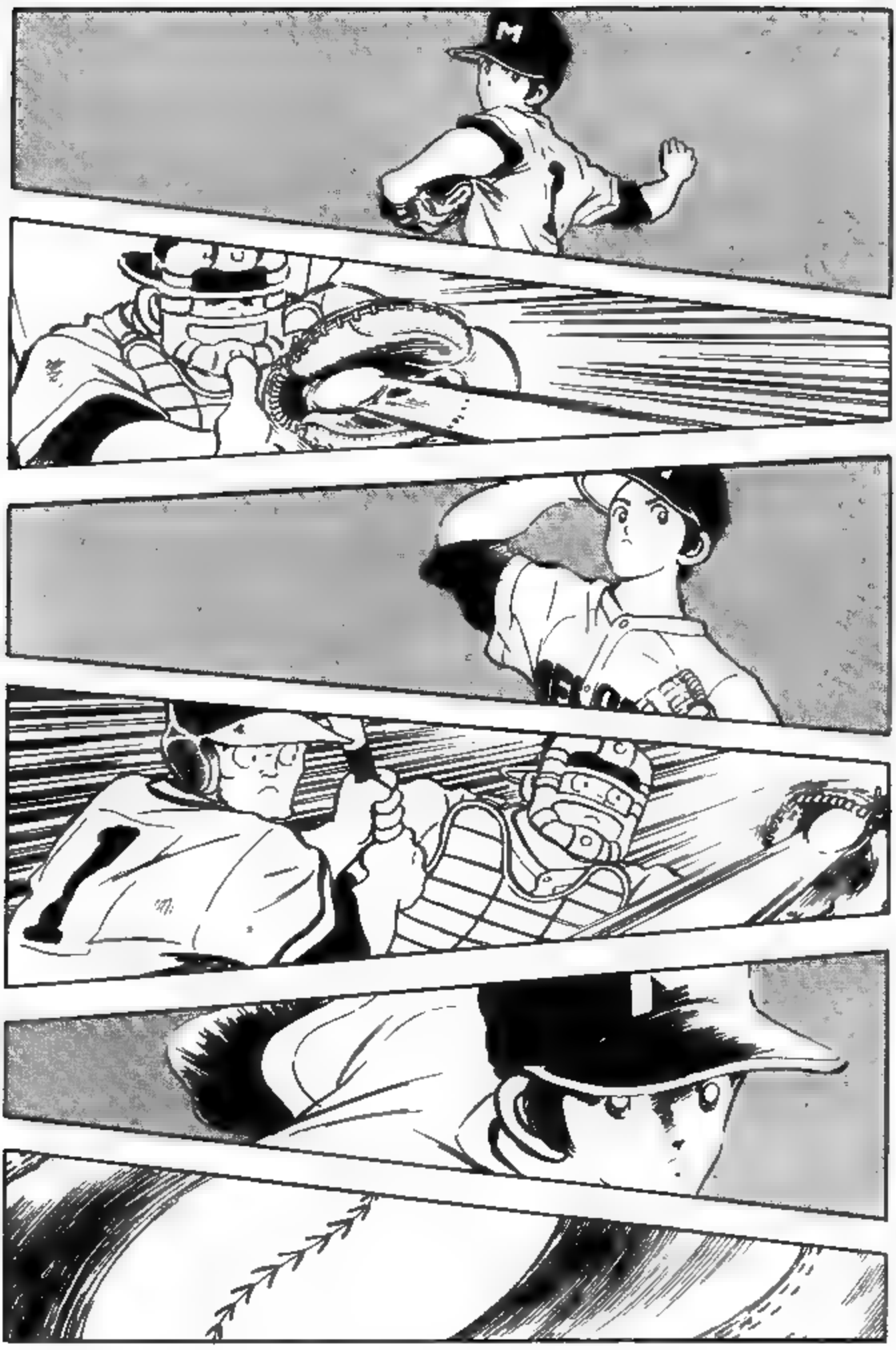
...
YOU SAW THAT UESUGI DEFINITELY LOST LAST TIME.
THERE IS NO WAY THAT UESUGI CAN STOP NITTA.
IF THIS CONTIN-UES,
THEN NITTA WILL BAT AGAIN
AS OF RIGHT NOW YOU ARE UNPROVEN AND YOU HAVE NO CONFI-DENCE.
BUT I UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU ARE GOING THROUGH.
YOU HAVE A LOT OF SKILL AND TALENT
CONFI-DENCE MADE OF GLASS
I'M CONFI-DENT!

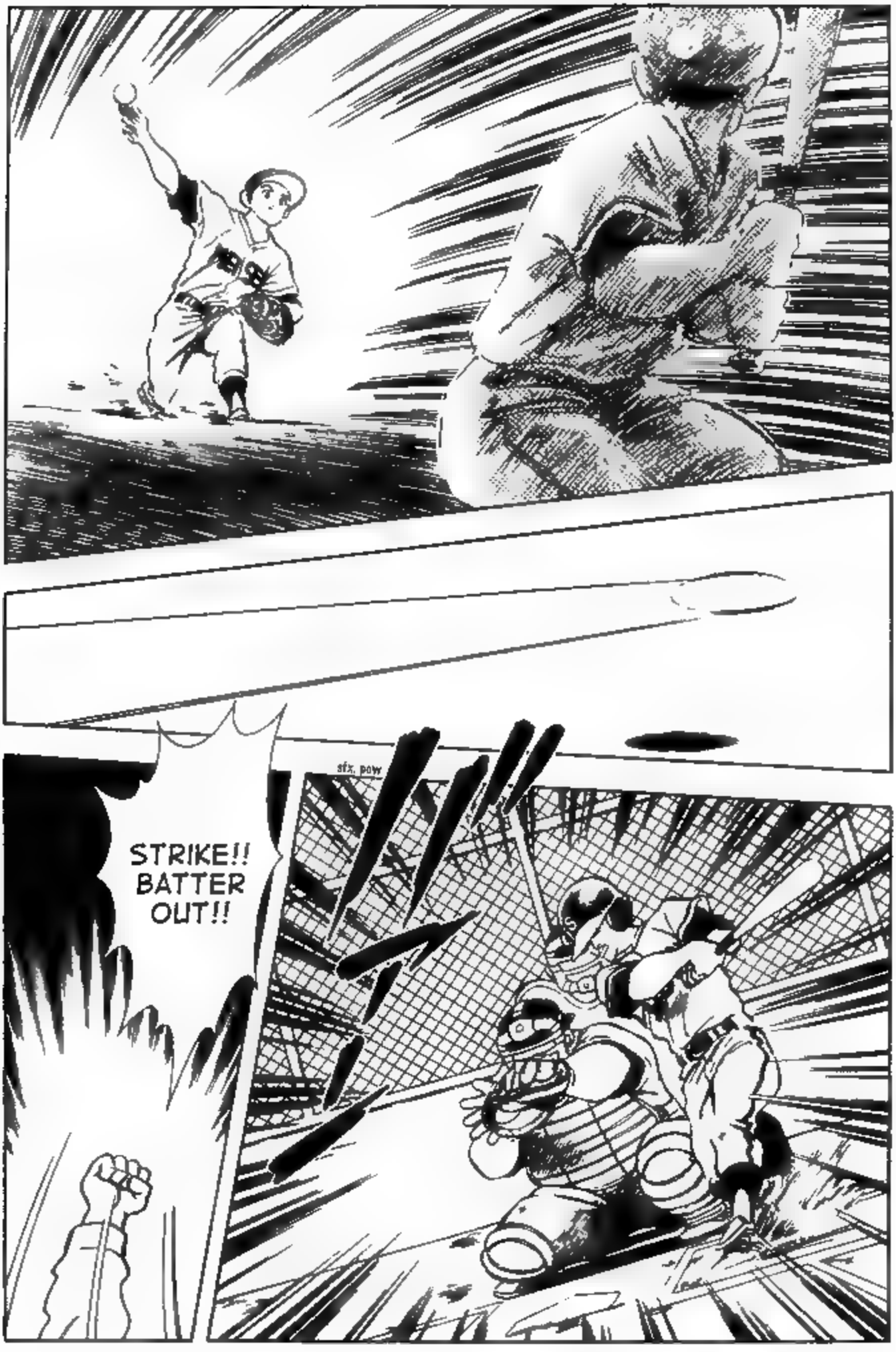
OTHER PEOPLE MIGHT GROW AND EVOLVE FROM DEFEAT
IT WOULD BE A WASTE FOR YOU TO BREAK DOWN BECAUSE OF THIS MATCH.
BUT YOU'RE NOT THAT TYPE OF PERSON.
THERE IS NO POINT IN RUSHING, YOSHIDA TAKE IT SLOWLY
...
LOOK HERE IKEDA!
KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE BALL!
I WASN'T A COACH FOR 15 YEARS AND LEARNED NOTHING.

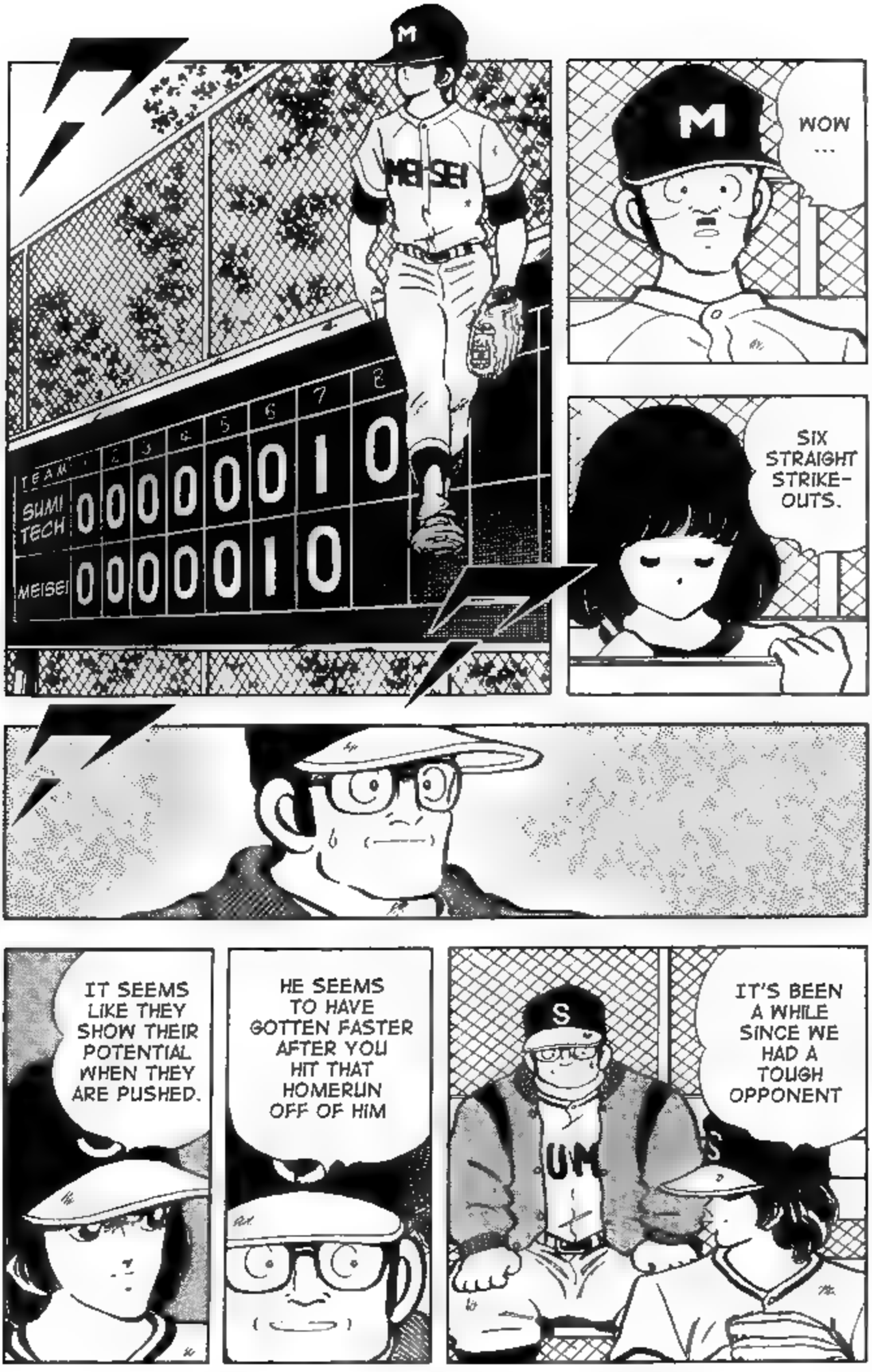

YOU'RE UP TO BAT
IF YOU TAKE MY ADVICE YOU'LL BE A GREAT PITCHER SOMEDAY.
M
BUT NOW I FOUND SOMETHING THAT'LL MAKE PEOPLE NOTICE ME
I'VE BEEN IGNORED MY WHOLE LIFE.

THE NATION WOULD SEE ME.
AND IF I WAS PITCHING ON THE KOUSHIEN MOUND,
THE MOST WONDERFUL OF ALL SPORTS, HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL.
I WILL MAKE PEOPLE REMEMBER MY NAME
NO ONE WOULD LAUGH AT ME
MEISEI'S ACE PITCHER YOSHIDA!
STOP MUTTERING TO YOURSELF, IT'S ANNOYING.
DAMN IT

LISTEN UP!
THE INNING WE SCORE THE MOST RUNS IS COMING UP
FINISH THIS NOW!
YEAH!!
sfx. pow

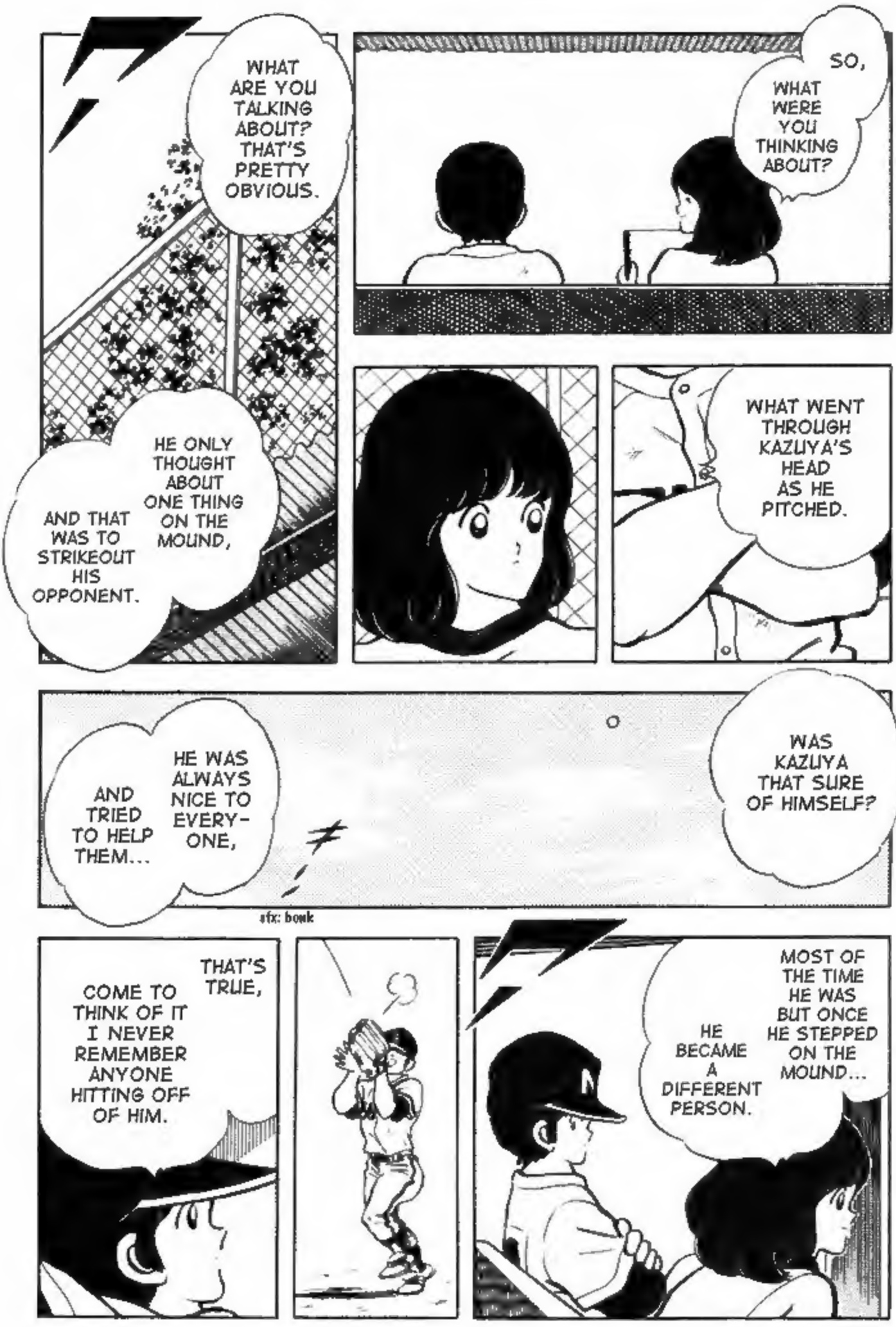


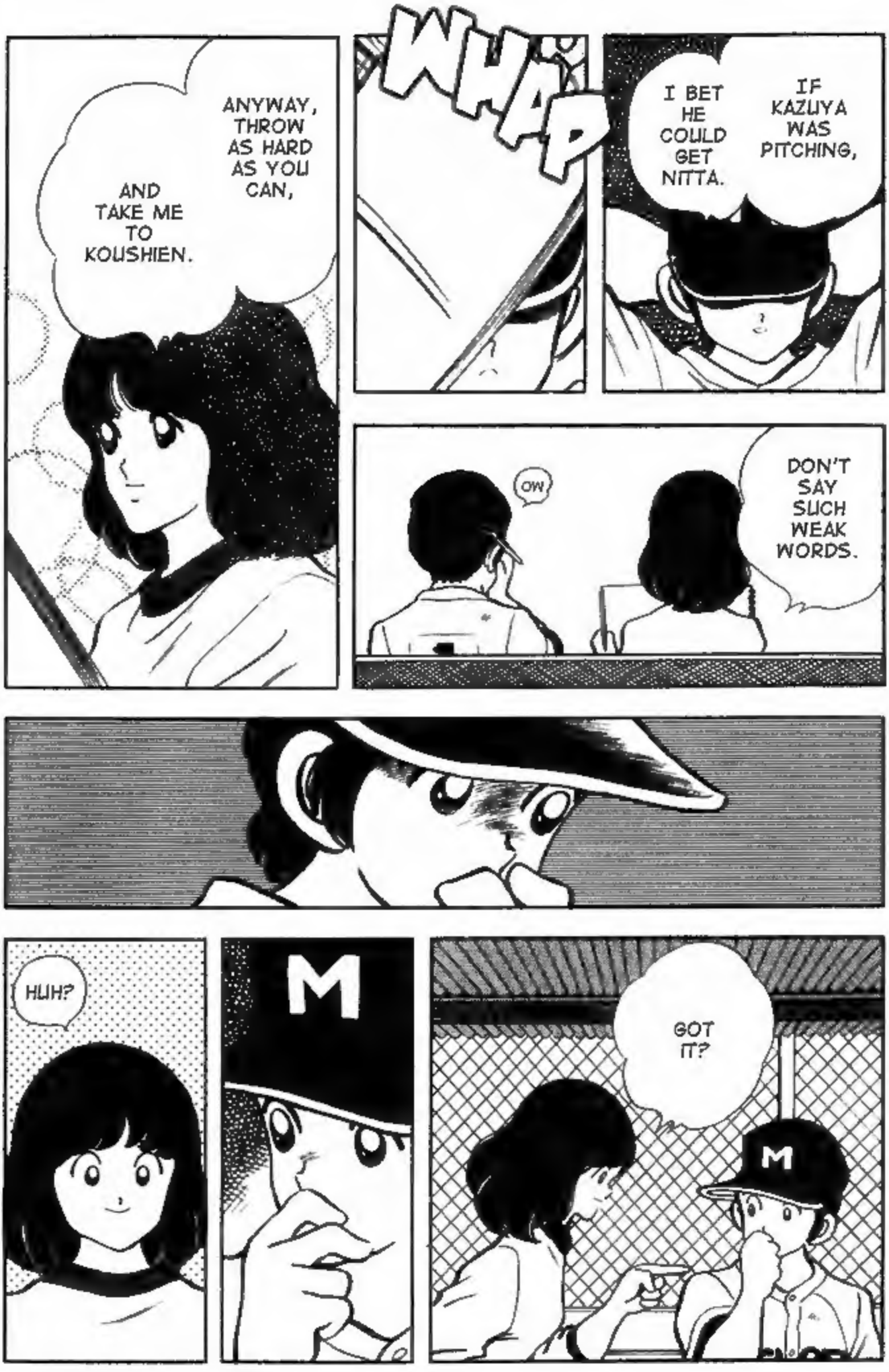

STRIKE!!
BATTER
OUT!!
sfx. pow


M
MEISEI
TEAM 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
SUMI TECH 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0
MEISEI 0 0 0 0 0 1 0
M
WOW ...
SIX STRAIGHT STRIKE-OUTS.
IT SEEMS LIKE THEY SHOW THEIR POTENTIAL WHEN THEY ARE PUSHED.
HE SEEMS TO HAVE GOTTEN FASTER AFTER YOU HIT THAT HOMERUN OFF OF HIM
S
UM
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE HAD A TOUGH OPPONENT

DON'T ACT SO HAPPY ABOUT IT,
AS A COACH I DON'T WANT TO SEE THEM GETTING STRONGER
OBVI-OUSLY
I SEE...
THIS WAY OUR DESIRE TO WIN GETS STRONGER.

sfx: pow
TACCHAN.
TACCHAN.
WHAT ARE YOU SPACING ABOUT?
YEA?
M
M
REALLY?
OH?
M
FOR NOT ACTING LIKE I WAS THINKING ABOUT SOMETHING.
I'M SORRY ...


WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THAT'S PRETTY OBVIOUS.
HE ONLY THOUGHT ABOUT ONE THING ON THE MOUND,
AND THAT WAS TO STRIKEOUT HIS OPPONENT.
SO, WHAT WERE YOU THINKING ABOUT?
WHAT WENT THROUGH KAZUYA'S HEAD AS HE PITCHED.
WAS KAZUYA THAT SURE OF HIMSELF?
HE WAS ALWAYS NICE TO EVERY-ONE,
AND TRIED TO HELP THEM...
sfx: bonk
THAT'S TRUE,
COME TO THINK OF IT I NEVER REMEMBER ANYONE HITTING OFF OF HIM.
MOST OF THE TIME HE WAS BUT ONCE HE STEPPED ON THE MOUND...
HE BECAME A DIFFERENT PERSON.


ANYWAY, THROW AS HARD AS YOU CAN,
AND TAKE ME TO KOUSHIEN.
WHAP
IF KAZUYA WAS PITCHING,
I BET HE COULD GET NITTA.
OW
DON'T SAY SUCH WEAK WORDS.
HUH?
M
GOT IT?
M

TOUCH タッチ 13

Shonen Sunday Comics

あだち充

★★

小学館

SSC—1133

Shonen Sunday Comics

小学館

★★定価 360円

★"もう一度、上杉和也と対決させてくれ"と、新田明男が
★達也にポツリ。だけど、エース・達也のポジションは…
★ライト。これじゃ対決しようにも、できっこない。明青
★学園と須見工の練習試合、ただいま、0対0の白熱戦!!

雑誌 45021—33

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